CURRENT ANECDOTES

AND ILLUSTRATIVE SHORT STORIES

Copyrighted by CURRENT ANECDOTES CO., 1899.

Vol. I, No. 3. CLEVELAND, DECEMBER, 1899. Cut Gems, Vol. V, No. 3.

ILLUSTRATIONS FROM CURRENT EVENTS.

BY REV. LOUIS ALBERT BANKS, D. D.,

Author of "Anecdotes and Morals," Etc.

MASTERING CIRCUMSTANCES.

It is related that just before the thousands of eager people crowded around Admiral Dewey to begin shaking hands with him, on the occasion of his reception at the National Capitol, President McKinley made a suggestion: "Don't let any man shake hands with you," he said. "You shake hands with him." Herein lies the secret of public hand-shaking. Any man who has ever stood by at a public function and has seen the thousands of strong men grip the hand of a public man and throw into their grasp all the enthusiasm and devotion that is in their hearts must have wondered that a human hand could survive the physical pressure. The secret of such survival lies in the President's suggestion. The man who understands the art does not let the public shake his hand, but he takes the aggressive and shakes the hand of the public. It makes a great difference in life whether you are shaken or whether you shake. It is all the difference between being the creature of circumstances and the moulder of circumstances. (101)

THE FASCINATION OF EVIL.

Cyanide of potassium is said to be the most dangerous of all poisons because of a singular quality it possesses. It is in appearance so very attractive to those who handle it that they are often seized with an almost overwhelming desire to eat it. To one man who has a fondness for saccharine substances, it suggests sugar; and to another snow newly fallen; but to both it is so alluring that they may only overcome the temptation to put it in their mouths by great force of will power. The very men who make it and who are most familiar with its deadly properties are pursued by an unreasonable desire to eat the poison, and as long as they remain in its vicinity this extraordinary craving endures. They know that to give way to the craving means death almost instant and horrible, and as a consequence are usually able to resist the strange temptation, but during the last ten years in one large manufacturing chemist's laboratory, four intelligent and steady workmen have committed suicide in that way. The owner of the plant recently said that many times when in contact with the cyanide fumes, he himself had been compelled to leave the work precipitately for fear of yielding to the deadly temptation. What a graphic illustration of the deadly power which sin exercises over the human imagination and heart. It also suggests the wisdom of keeping out of temptation as much as possible. It is great folly for men or women to thrust themselves into places where they know the dangerous fascination of their besetting sin will be felt. (102)

THE OLDEST COIN.

One of the prized curios of the Philadelphia mint is a coin which is 2000 years old, and which was coined at the ancient mint of that other Philadelphia of the Far East mentioned in the Bible. It is still in good condition, and the inscription is perfectly legible. The design on the face of the coin bears a striking resemblance to the Goddess of Liberty of our own currency and underneath is the one word, "Demos," which means "The People." On the other side is the figure of Diana, with her bow arched, and the inscription, "Diana, Friend of the Philadelphians." When this coin was struck off Philadelphia was the most important city of Lydia. What an interesting story the old coin could tell if it could relate its wanderings and the hands through which it has passed in the last two thousand years. But there is a more interesting coin yet, a coin at once older and yet new with every generation. It is the coin of the human heart. In many cases the image of God has been largely effaced and it is sometimes hard to make out the inscription, but Christ, the great restorer of the soul, can make this human coin as bright as new. (103)

STINGING VEXATIONS.

A fine horse was stung to death by honey bees on a farm in Maryland not long ago. The animal was turned into a lot to graze in which was a bench with eight hives of bees sitting on it. One of the hives was knocked over and in an instant the horse was covered by the bees. The excited creature became entangled in a quantity of vines in such a way that it could not extricate itself, and began to roll to get free from the bees which swarmed all over it. This only made matters worse and resulted in overturning the entire bench of eight hives, the bees from which completely covered the helpless animal. The horse lived only a few hours and died in great agony. Handfuls of bee stings were pulled from about the nose and mouth and eyes—in short, there was scarcely a square inch of the animal's body which had escaped a wound from the bees. Who of us have not seen men and women stung to death by small worries and vexations. Hard work seldom kills, but a strong man given over to petty annoyances can soon have the life stung out of him. Wider pasture room was what the horse needed to be safe from the bees, and a larger horizon with a devotion to a great purpose is the best way to free ourselves from the stings of small annoyances. (104)

MANHOOD MORE IMPORTANT THAN PLATE.

Some one has recently remarked that it is not very flattering to our National pride to know that the Presidential Mansion cannot make so brave a showing in regard to tableware as her Britannic Majesty's Embassy. When Lord Julian Poncefote brings forth his plate chest and spreads a state banquet the magnificence of the White House silver, china and glassware sinks into insignificance. The silver service which the British Government has furnished for its representative in Washington is valued at fifty thousand dollars. The weight of the precious metal is upwards of a thousand pounds, but its chief value lies in the exquisite workmanship which appears in full detail on even the smallest piece. The Regal Arms of England and beautifully traced flowers, birds and vines set off every article. The centerpiece is a marvel of the jeweler's art. It is on the order of a five-branched candelabrum, with golden leaves shining among silver flowers and enameled birds. Alternately there are receptacles for candles and tall slim cut glass vases for flowers. Connoisseurs have declared that this centerpiece is the handsomest ornament of its kind to be found outside the houses of kings. The china of the British Embassy compares with the silver in value and delicacy, and the glass is equally rare and costly. The total value of the tableware is upwards of seventy-five thousand dollars. It is all the property of the British Government, as is the magnificent furniture with which the Embassy is provided. Indeed, this writer declares that the home of her Britannic Majesty's Ambassador in the United States is so much more elegant and appropriate that it is really disheartening to contemplate the poverty and narrow confines of the White House. But I am sure that this opinion does not represent the general opinion of the American people. The Republic can very well forbear from entering into a competition with the Kingdoms of the world in barbaric display. Manhood in the White House is far more important than silver plate or furniture. The Christmas story recalls to us the divine Lord who was cradled in a manger, and forever teaches us that the outer adornment of life is insignificant compared to the inner reality. (105)

LACK OF HONOR.

A strange case has just been in the public press of a professor in an eastern college who was arrested for peeping into the windows of private houses. Many counts of such trespass were lodged against him. He admits his guilt and explained to the police before whom he was examined that it was a habit that had grown upon him. He said that constant study had aggravated insomnia. To relieve this he often took walks at night before he retired. He says that he was attracted by lights in windows and often peered in through the shutters. This peeping business fascinated him and the mania has been increasing on him for years. Whatever may have helped it on, one fact is certain that down at the bottom the real cause was the lack of a keen sense of honor. Children should be educated to a keenness of perception in regard to a sense of honor and trained to do the honorable and right deed, in secret as surely as in public. (106)

TUNNELING THE DISMAL SWAMP.

The Dismal Swamp Canal was recently opened, and a few miles more of work will open an inside water route all the way from New York to the Florida capes. The Dismal Swamp Canal was originally surveyed by George Washington, but for nearly a hundred years it had been in disuse. It is twenty-two miles long and passes through the most picturesque and historically attractive Swamp in America. The reopening of this canal is very suggestive. It is a good thing to tunnel all the dismal swamps of life. Some people found the way through their dismal swamp in youth by the divine aid, and used its cheery channel for awhile and then through worldliness and sin it fell into disuse. But Christ has power to reopen it. What happiness would come to many lives if that were done. Some people are confronted with a future that seems only a dismal swamp that stretches away into darkness. But a resolute purpose can by God's help cut a canal through the most dismal swamp that confronts any human life. (107)

STRONG ALLIES.

In one of the great squares of St. Petersburg stands a magnificent column a hundred and fifty feet in height, erected to commemorate the reign of the Czar Alexander I., the ally and afterward the rival of Napoleon. On one occasion at a public celebration the present Czar wished to have the great shaft illuminated, and round lamps of an enormous size were ordered from a leading glass manufactory. After two or three experiments the workmen discovered to their consternation that it seemed impossible to blow the bulbs so large by the force of human breath. The blowers blew till they were utterly exhausted, but the bulbs remained far below the required size. A handsome price was offered to the first successful blower and the men renewed their efforts, but to no purpose. At last a big fellow, shaped like a barrel, stepped forward and quietly remarked that he was sure he could do the trick. The crowd laughed good-humoredly, but the man merely said, "I want to rinse my mouth; it's dry." They gave him a cup of water. He rinsed his mouth, taking plenty of time, and then applied his lips to the tube. Slowly and steadily the ball of glass grew. Soon it reached the dimensions of its nearest rival. Then it became bigger and bigger until it approached the required size, which was finally attained. Then it passed it. "Stop, stop!" cried the crowd. "It's getting too big," and the foreman added, "How did you do it?" "Where is my money?" said the man by way of reply. When he felt the rubles in his palm an expression of genial satisfaction overspread his rough features. "Why, it's easy!" said he. And then he explained how he had retained some of the water in his mouth, how he had gradually blown it into the molten ball, and how the expanding steam had instantly come to his assistance. So the men who refresh themselves with the water of life are re-enforced with spiritual influence and power that make it possible for them to do deeds beyond the reach of unaided human ability. (108)

OPPORTUNITIES FOR AMERICAN YOUTH.

Julian Ralph, the journalist, tells an exceedingly interesting story, the facts for which could never have happened in any country outside of the United States. One day a President of the United States sent for Mr. Ralph. He had been elected to that high office but had not yet been inaugurated. "I hear," he said, "that you have just come back from Washington." "Yes." "Did you go to the White House? You did? Well, please sit down and tell me

all about it. What sort of a house it is? How is it managed? How many rooms are in it? Where does the President do his work? And how did you get in there—how do visitors manage to see the house while a President and his family are living in it?" "Why," exclaimed Mr. Ralph, "have you never visited the White House?" "No," said he, "I have only seen the outside of it. I have never even seen a President, or, in fact, any great man. But now that I am about to make the White House my home, I should very much like to hear all that you can tell me about it." That conversation is very suggestive of the possibilities before American youth. The highest successes are within the reach of the poorest and humblest who are willing to pay the price in hard work and noble achievement. (109)

THE FRIENDSHIP DEPARTMENT.

A Boston department store proprietor is seeking for a social secretary with novel duties. He wants a well equipped man or woman for whose services he is willing to pay twenty-five hundred dollars a year, and more if necessary to get the right person, to do nothing but keep in close touch with his working people and arrange plans for their good. He wants this secretary to represent him in doing what he has not the time to do in looking after the interests of his employees inside the store and out. More than all else, this secretary must become the friend of each man and woman employed, and a friend of their families. He proposes to thus make it impossible for any one in his employment to ever feel that he or she is friendless. There is to be one patient ear, alert eye, ready hand, and sympathetic heart, ready to stand by them against the world, if they are in the right, or help them back if they are out of the way. The mere suggestion of such a secretary in a big business house warms one's heart and has in it a suggestion of the good times that are coming to the world when the Christmas spirit of brotherhood shall pervade all business life. (110)

LIFE'S STANDARDS.

Many people who handle the yard stick have but little idea of the years of study and experiment that were necessary to secure the standard yard measure. Bird, a famous scientist, made the first standard yard, in 1760, but the English Government did not legalize it until 1824. Ten years afterward, when the House of Parliament, in London, was destroyed by fire, the standard yard was lost and England was again without a standard yard of length. Sheepsbanks next made a standard yard measure, which the English Government adopted, and, so that it could not be again destroyed by fire four authorized copies were made of it. One of these was deposited in the Royal Mint, another in the Royal Society, another in the observatory at Greenwich, and the fourth was embedded in the walls of the new House of Parliament. The standard yard measures which are owned by the United States Government are copies of the original, one of which is owned by the Coast Survey. The United States Naval Observatory has one also. The delicacy of its construction may be gathered by the fact that a change of temperature of one hundredth of a degree Fahrenheit has been known to produce a sensible effect on the length of the bar. The cost of the construction of the original standard yard measure involved the labor of Bird and his assistants for nearly six years. Sheepsbanks was eleven years in producing the accurate copies which he made from Bird's original measurements. Christ is the yard measure for manhood. The cost of that standard of life is beyond all our estimate. Every life must stand or fall by that measure. Men who are tempted to be proud when they have been judging themselves by worldly standards become humble enough when they put their motives and conduct alongside the one perfect standard of life in Jesus Christ. (111)

THE TRUE LIGHT.

There has recently been discovered a new illuminating gas called electroid which burns with a very bright white light. This new illuminant is composed of acetylene with the admixture of inert matter and a proportion of oxygen. Its manufacture is of the simplest nature. The gas can be delivered through any ordinary gas main at the ordinary pressure, measured by means of gas meters, in the same way as where ordinary coal gas is used. The light is perfectly white and is equal to two hundred and fifty candle power as against the average seventeen candle power of coal gas. Christ is the light of the world. He is the true light that lighteth every man that cometh into the world. The glory of Christianity is that its pure white light can shine through ordinary human conversation and deeds and glorify the lowliest of lives. (112)

COMMUNICATION WITH HEAVEN.

The imagination must be dead, indeed, that does not throb responsive to the thought of that wonderful piece of human workmanship, the modern ocean cable, that combination of wire and rubber which descends at the will of man into the vast void of the sea, and running its direct course over mountain ranges, across sudden abysses, of lower depth, through the turbulence of upbursting submarine torrents, until from continent to continent the connection is made, and man holds converse with man at his ease as though distance were naught. Strange that any man seeing this power of man to talk through thousands of miles of ocean void should doubt the power of God, who holds the ocean as though in the hollow of his hand, to communicate with the hearts of his children. (113)

POLISHING CHARACTER.

The polishing works of Sioux Falls, South Dakota, are now engaged on the stupendous job of getting out one million dollars' worth of polished chalcedony, or petrified wood, to be taken to the Paris Exposition. This petrified wood is hauled from its native heath in Arizona, a distance of sixty-five miles, to a railroad, and then shipped to Sioux Falls to be cut and polished, that being the only place in the world having facilities for treating the petrification, which is seven-tenths as hard as diamond. It is shipped there in great logs and stumps, weighing many tons each, just as they have lain for countless ages during the process required by nature to turn the wood into beautiful and variegated colors of stone. The process of sawing the stone up in shape for polishing is most tedious, the huge machinery used for the purpose being able to saw only from an inch to three inches a day into it. After being cut and polished the stone is worked up into every conceivable shape, from cuff buttons to tops for center tables and great columns, which cost a small fortune. The polishing of character is something like that. It cannot be done in an hour or a day or a year. Many times a mother or a teacher gets discouraged at the slow process, but God looking on knows that it is worth all it cost and that honest effort of that sort is never thrown away. Though the work is often slow the results obtained, when character is really formed and polished into the likeness of Jesus Christ, is the most splendid thing in all the universe of God. (114)

THE DEVILISHNESS OF THE DRINK APPETITE.

An old sailor relates how in his youth he was homeward bound from Santa Anna with a cargo of mahogany, and when off Cape Campeache one calm afternoon, leaned over the taff rail, looking down into the sea on the watch for fish. Suddenly a gloomy shade came over the bright water, and up rose a fearsome monster some eighteen feet across, in a general outline more like a skate than anything else, all except the head. There, what appeared to be two curious horns about three feet apart rose on each side of the most horrible pair of eyes imaginable. A shark's eyes as he turns sideways under your vessel's counter and looks up to see if any one is coming, are ghastly, green and cruel, but this thing's eyes were all this and much more. He felt that the Book of Revelation was incomplete without this monster, and his gaze has haunted him through all the years since. Although quite sick and giddy at the sight of such a bogey, he could not move until the awful thing suddenly waving what seemed like mighty wings, soared up out of the water, soundlessly to a height of about six feet, falling again with a thunderous splash that might have been heard for miles. The sailor fainted with fright. The creature was gamboling in play, but it has never seemed possible for him to believe such awe-inspiring horrors capable of sport. The drink habit is like that devil-fish; it has feelers, long and far-reaching, that are cruel as death where they set their hold. It has eyes fiendish as the Evil One, and it destroys its multitudes while sporting with them. It plays but for to debauch and kill. That this deadly—the most deadly of all the evils that curse humanity—should be the associate of man's amusement, and strike him with deadliest blow in the midst of his search for enjoyment is one of the mocking things of life. (115)

CONDUCT'S DEPOSIT IN CHARACTER.

A recent writer telling of the wonders underneath the ocean says that it would be an awful country to view if the floor of the sea should be suddenly exposed; a barren land of weird outline, without any beauty such as is bestowed upon the dry earth by the kindly sun. Its beauty depends upon the sea, whose prolific waters are peopled with life so abundantly that even the teeming earth is barren as compared with the ocean. But at its greatest depth

all the researches that man has been able to prosecute go to prove that there is very little life. The most that goes on there is a steady accumulation of the dead husks of once living organisms settling slowly down to form, who knows what new granites, marbles, porphyries, against the time when another race on a reorganized earth shall need them. Here there is nothing fanciful, for if we know anything at all of prehistoric times, it is that what is now high land, not to say merely dry land, was once lying cold and dormant at the bottom of the sea and was built up slowly through the ages for our present use and comfort. Character builds up that way. As the inhabitants of the sea toil and struggle and build their lives into the growing continents, so every deed we do, every temptation we resist, every trial we fight manfully through, makes its deposit in character to help to build up a noble personality that shall after a while stand unblushing in the presence of God. (116)

BOLD BIRDS OF PREY.

While stopping near the Rhode Island state line, recently a traveler was shown a large clump of forest trees just within the border of that state, which was literally blackened with fish hawk's nests. On making inquiry of a farmer he learned that the reason was to be found in the fact that Rhode Island alone of all the New England states protected the life of these great hawks by law. All up and down the line between Connecticut and Rhode Island are to be seen the result of this protection vouchsafed by the smaller state. On the Connecticut side of the fence for miles and miles scarcely a nest of this great bird is to be found, while in Rhode Island the nests are everywhere, even in the tops of chimneys of abandoned houses. One may see something like that in the lives of men and women in any community. Two men live side by side, and one keeps strict watch against evil thoughts and imaginations and gives no rest for such wandering and malicious birds. The result is that the graces of the spirit grow and thrive in his heart. The other gives these devil's fowls a free chance to build their nests and rear their young in the secret places of his soul. The result is that he is over-run by these marauders and his heart becomes the reveling place for every evil thing. (117)

THE BROTHERHOOD OF PAIN.

A distinguished physician has recently said that so far as his observation goes, pain, physical pain, is the great leveler. Be the form what it may—hunger, thirst, exhaustion, or the agony of wounded flesh, a given amount of it will reduce all men to about the same status. Christ made himself our brother indeed by taking upon Himself our human flesh and testing the experiences of hunger, and thirst, and loneliness, and grief, being tempted in all points like as we are, and thus perfecting Himself to be the Captain of our salvation through suffering. (118)

WRECKS AND WRECKAGE.

Not long ago the Union Pacific Railroad Company determined to destroy its old and wornout freight cars. It had inspectors on the lookout and when a debilitated car of low capacity or unequipped with air brakes rattled by it was branded as condemned and was shunted off the side track at Laramie, Wyoming, which had been selected as a refuge for doomed cars. This process continued for months until the cars, averaging thirty feet in length, reached a total length of seven miles. These cars are being broken up into fire wood by the convicts of the state penitentiary which is near the place, and the scrap iron is taken away to the railroad shops to be melted up and worked into new railroad material. It is pathetic to think of those poor wrecked men working away on those wrecked cars. Nothing is so sad as human wreckage. Christ came to seek and to save poor wrecked humanity. The devil is a wrecker but Christ is a Savior, and the greatest honor that was ever put on any man is to give him the privilege of helping Christ in rescuing this immortal wreckage from destruction. (119

ABSORBING INFORMATION.

Once upon a time, it is said, there lived in Madras, India, a holy Brahmin, who wanted an advance copy of an examination paper in the Civil Service competitions for his son. So dressed in his white clothes he quietly entered the Government printing office, quietly sat down on the types when the printer's back was turned and as quietly walked home again, a living guide to knowledge, a walking dictionary. It is possible to keep the mind and heart

so alert to spiritual impression that it shall sensitively seize upon every good thing with which it comes in contact. (120)

VICIOUS INFLUENCES.

An extraordinary phenomenon has been noticed with regard to the chestnut trees in one of the famous avenues of Brussels, since the installation of the electrical tram-cars. The foliage of the trees on one side the tram-way begins to turn brown and drop early in August; then they bud and blossom again in October. The trees on the opposite side of the tramway behave like ordinary trees, for they lose their foliage in the late autumn and do not put forth fresh blossoms until the spring. Botanists are inclined to believe that the cause of this singular state of things is due to the electrical current which passes under ground acting upon the roots of the trees. It will probably soon destroy their lives. There are many people whose deterioration in conduct is impossible of explanation by those who look on, because the fatal influence is at work underneath at the roots of life. We should be careful of the forces that have to do with the imagination and the thought, for there the roots of life lie. (121)

THE PETTY WOLVES

In Denmark a campaign against rats is being prosecuted with vigor. It was originally started in Copenhagen, where the alarming multiplication of the rats induced the municipal authorities to resort to a medieval method of freeing the community from beasts of prey. As a price was once offered for every head of a wolf, so the conscript father of the Danish capitol engaged to pay a certain sum for each dead rat. An official report of the statistics of slaughter has been issued every week since the opening of the campaign. In the first week the rat catchers gave in the heads of six thousand rats. It has increased every week until now more than ten thousand of the creatures perish every week. Other towns and communes have followed the example of the capitol, and the Danes are making a patriotic attempt to exterminate "The Petty Wolf," as some one has not inaptly named the rat. It is "the petty wolves" of vexation and annoyance that rob us of the great majority of our happiness. Most of us nerve ourselves up to fight the lions and tigers of trial, but the little petty wolves that gnaw at us in the dark—they are what we need to look out for. (122)

PLUCK AND PERSISTENCE

No man has made a greater success in recent years as a student of natural science, as well as a writer, than Mr. Ernest Seton Thompson, who has become the interpreter of wild animals in this country. One incident out of many illustrates his boyish ambition and his early perseverance. When he was a boy in London eighteen years of age, studying hard on technical subjects, he found himself in great need of data only obtainable in the British Museum. He applied for admission, but was refused on account of his age, twenty-one being the entrance limit at that time. He was greatly disappointed and applied to a higher court of appeal. He was directed to the chief librarian, who in turn referred him to the final tribunal—the Directors, who were no less personages than the Prince of Wales, the Archbishop of Canterbury, and Lord Disraeli. He addressed a letter to each one of them stating the fact that he was a serious student, seeking special information. After a suitable time of inquiry had elapsed he received a life ticket. Mr. Thompson has shown the same sort of pluck and persistence in the investigation of the habits of the wild creatures that he has come to know better than any living man. The same qualities will bring about the same splendid results in every department of life. (123)

PUTTING YOURSELF IN HIS PLACE.

When Mr. Ernest Seton Thompson entered his picture, Awaited in Vain, in the Chicago Exposition, it attracted a great deal of attention. The picture was the painted tragedy of a woodcutter devoured by wolves near the door of his cottage. This work had in it so much of the realism of animal ferocity that it brought forth a whirlwind of criticism, for and against. One critic Mr. Thompson is fond of quoting. "The picture," says the writer in question, "is painted entirely from the brute's standpoint." There is a good suggestion in that for preachers, for Sunday-school teachers and for all Christian workers who seek to reclaim those who have fallen into sin. You must be able to see life from their standpoint before you will be able greatly to help them. (124)

AN ALL-ROUND MAN.

Arch-Deacon Brady tells some good stories of his experiences in the West. One of the difficulties in holding religious services in a new country is in getting people to sing in the services. And the Arch-Deacon had the same experience that has fallen to the lot of many a frontier preacher when he with the organist sung duets until the organist got tired and quit, and he naively confesses that he could not blame her under the circumstances, but he discovered one man who was the possessor of a remarkable versatile voice, and his courage was as high as his voice was various. They were supposed to have a quartette choir in their mission, but if any of the singers happened to be absent it made no difference with the music, for the man with the comprehensive voice could and would sing any part. He would sometimes sing the soprano solo of the anthem and then immediately after sing the bass solo, carry a few bars of the alto part, and wind up with the chorus all by himself. The music never failed when he was there. An all-round man or woman in a church is worth his or her weight in gold. There is always demand for the good-humored, whole-souled, devoted Christian that is willing to lay hold wherever the help is needed without asking whether they are doing more than their share or not. (125)

ATTRACTING THE MASSES.

Sir Thomas Lipton, who has just attracted so large attention through his part in the International yacht races, owes his fortune to his own ability and pluck. Young Lipton went up to London with a borrowed capital of about five hundred dollars. He rented a small shop, spent one-half of this sum in purchasing a stock of tea—getting it cheap for cash—and the other half he put in a separate box to be used entirely and exclusively for advertising. This was before the days of great advertising and Lipton's friends shook their heads at his scheme. But the scheme worked to perfection. Marking his goods at the very lowest figures, he got ready for his advertising. He bought two of the fattest hogs that could be found anywhere in London, had them carefully scraped and cleaned, tied pink ribbons round their necks, and sent them waddling through the crowded streets, each led by a man dressed in pink, and having between them another man carrying a banner upon which was inscribed the words, "We are going to Lipton's Pink Tea! Come along yourself!" The shop was crowded within an hour. The low prices caught the people's fancy, too, and business became so brisk that instead of serving behind the counter, as he had originally intended, Lipton was compelled to employ a dozen clerks to do that work while he attended exclusively to attracting the people. Many churches are running empty that might be crowded with people if the pastor and membership would use their heads in discovering methods of making the church attractive to the people. Many folks have yet to learn the lesson that it is just as important to get the people to come to church as it is to preach them the truth after they are there. (126)

THE UPLIFTED HEART.

When Paul urges us to be "instant in prayer," he does not mean that we shall make long prayers or that we shall give up our time entirely to praying, but that we shall live and work all the while with the heart in the prayerful attitude toward God, an attitude of submission and confidence in the Divine Will. Annie Linden sings this truth in a suggestive little poem entitled "Resignation." She says:

The saddest tears are those that never fall,
But are held smarting in the aching eyes.
The truest prayers can find no words at all,
But flutter wearily to God, in sighs.

We need not speak if with our hearts we pray,
And by our living try to do His will,
Who leads us gently in the Narrow Way,
And when we murmur whispers, "Peace, be still."

(127)

THE DREAMERS AND THE EXPERTS.

When the Czar of Russia proposed to build the great Trans-Siberian railroad, the railroad experts of the world declared that it was a visionary dream and could not be made to pay expenses for generations to come. But although not yet completed, it is already a huge

and phenomenal commercial and financial success. Two years or more may be necessary before it will be possible to travel from the Atlantic to the Pacific across the continents of Europe and Asia without changing cars. But the traffic on that portion of the line already open is so altogether out of proportion even to the most sanguine estimates as to show that, in spite of the colossal sums invested in the enterprise, it will prove a paying undertaking from the very outset. The railroad has inspired the people to open up farms, and it has been impossible to get freight cars enough into Siberia to carry away all the wheat offered at the stations this year. The Czar's dream has proved a wise one. The dreamers often have the best of the experts, and the man who ventures out into a new field with an idea noble enough to be true, may depend upon inspiring multitudes of people to higher ambitions than they have seemed hitherto capable of. (128)

THE NEED OF PATIENCE.

A laughable story is told by Chief Constructor Hichborn of the United States Navy concerning the first attempts to get men to work skilfully upon the minute parts of the models in naval ship building. A man was assigned to make the chains for the anchors of the Charleston, the first of the modern models made for the Navy Department. He received material and tools, and, with instructions as to how the cables were to be made, went at his work. Three days afterward he went to the Chief Constructor. "Chief," said he, "I want to be discharged." "What is the matter?" inquired Mr. Hichborn. "Well," said the man, gloomily," I don't like my job." "Why do you dislike it?" inquired the surprised chief. "Well," exclaimed the man, "I started three days ago to make chains. I had finished up a lot of links, and left them on a paper on my bench. Last night somebody left the window open and the wind blew the links and the papers out and I can't find them. I want to be discharged." The chief laughed at him and asked him to go back and begin over again, but to see thereafter that his window was shut when he was away. We are all of us working on chains for anchors in the shops of human life, and without care and patience we shall make a failure of it. But the stake is so great that we can well afford to be careful and patient. (129)

A HARMONIOUS PERSONALITY.

Mr. Hamilton Mabie in his latest book, "The Life of the Spirit," has a very suggestive paragraph concerning the importance of the soul's culture from a purely personal standpoint. He says: To live cheerfully with ourselves is among the most difficult tasks which life lays upon us. When one thinks of it, there is something appalling in the necessity of spending all one's time for fifty, seventy or more years with the same person. This inevitable companionship with ourselves, this necessity of seeing always with the same eyes, thinking with the same brain, doing work with the same faculties, passing through all manner of experience with the same temperament, makes life one long, monotonous imprisonment unless every resource for enlargement and enrichment is used. Mr. Mabie declares that it is blighting monotony rather than "the slings and arrows of outrageous fortune" which drives some men and women to the mad folly of suicide—that futile effort to break away from self instead of emancipating self. It would add greatly to the world's happiness and usefulness if young men and young women everywhere could get this message thoroughly inscribed on their hearts. An empty head and an empty heart insure a dull and tedious life. And on the other hand a nature full of warning passions and lusts insures a stormy life that shall meet shipwreck in the end. A harmonious nature mastered by the divine Christ is the supreme ideal and within the reach of everyone. (130)

MISSING LIFE'S BEST GUEST.

Since God is Love, and of all the graces of character love is the best and most abiding, to miss love is to be unfortunate indeed. Someone sings of such a loss:

"Love stood upon the door-step,
And twirled about the pin,
And whispered through the key-hole,
'Is anyone within?'

But she was busy sweeping
And dusting high and low,
And he his books were deep in,
So they let him knock and go.

Better the book unwritten,
Better unswept the floor,
Than such sweet and seldom visitor
Turned from the thankless door." (131)

EATING OUT THE LIFE.

Mr. Jacob Doll of Brooklyn, New York, who has devoted a great deal of time and attention in studying the habits of caterpillars says that their worst enemies are the Ichneumon-flies, some of which resemble wasps and other giant house flies. These flies have no architectual genius of their own, and can be propagated only through the chrysalises of caterpillars, upon whom they depend for material and labor, and upon the completion of the chrysalis they ruthlessly devour the builder. The fly lays its eggs upon the body of the caterpillar and when the almost microscopic worm is hatched it bores its way into the caterpillar's body, but with seeming intelligence avoids the organs which are necessary to the caterpillar's life until the chrysalis is completed. Then he falls to and consumes the pupa completely, and thus becomes proprietor and sole occupant. Many a time Mr. Doll watches a chrysalis for the appearance of some valuable specimen only to see a very common fly walk out. He once sent home from Arizona to a person who had ordered them three hundred chrysalises which had cost him great labor. Not long after he received a letter from the gentleman saying: "What did you send me? I have three hundred Ichneumon-flies and nothing else." Many sins are like that. A wicked habit will eat its way into the human heart and then little by little it will devour it, until it reigns in disgusting mastery. (132)

BUTTERFLY FARMING.

Mr. Doll, the assistant curator of the Entomological Department of the Brooklyn Institute, has raised more butterflies and moths from the egg, chrysalis, cocoon and caterpillar than any other man in America. To his garden several of the large collections of butterflies owe their best and rarest North American specimens. There is something very suggestive about this kind of farming. The crop comes in an ugly caterpillar and often goes out a dazzling, beautiful butterfly. In the higher spiritual realm every man and woman ought to have a farm like that. The ugly trials and hardships and griefs that come to us should be so dealt with that we should hatch out the beautiful grace that God would bring to us through these homely messengers. (133)

BURDEN BEARERS.

When Bismarck complained to the old Emperor of Germany about the woeful falling off in his physical powers, His Majesty broke in: "Tut! Look at me. I am much older than you are, Bismarck, and yet I am still able to ride." "Ah, yes," rejoined the Iron Chancellor, "but, then, Your Majesty must remember that a rider always lasts longer than his horse." There is a great truth in the humorous suggestion. It is the truth unwittingly uttered by the mob who railing at Christ said, "He saved others but Himself He cannot save." Bismarck bore the uniting of Germany on his shoulders and paid for it in aches and pains, but it was worth the cost. (134)

THE WAY OF THE TRANSGRESSOR.

The death of Lew Houck, the inventor of three-card monte and the cleverest card sharp in the world, has recalled many incidents connected with his swindling career. He was a very bright man and had ability enough to have made an eminent success in some honorable profession. He once made a trip to Europe and passed there as a wealthy and traveled American. He had letters, too, from Secretary Olney, Secretary Carlisle and other leaders of the American political world, which recommended him in the highest terms not only to the American representatives abroad, but to any friends of the writers who might meet him. And these letters were genuine. Their authenticity could not be doubted. Houck had a way of getting entrance into the exclusive clubs of Washington, Philadelphia, New York and other cities, and in his role of "gentleman of leisure" he had so imposed on gentlemen of

high standing in the nation that they thought him all he represented himself to be, and gave him the letters of introduction that helped him to fleece the aristocracy of Europe. But though he made a great fortune in the course of his life of swindling, and is supposed to have taken in in this way over a million dollars, he died a tramp on the street in Durango, Mexico, and his widow in Ohio begged for funds with which to bury him. His old associate in gambling, known as Canada Bill, who had also made over a million dollars in wicked ways, died a pauper in the alms house in Lebanon, Pennsylvania, and is buried in a pauper's grave. Young men looking on are sometimes tempted to think that it is only the ungodly that prosper in this world, but God's word is true when it says, "The way of the transgressor is hard." (135)

UNGUARDED CRADLES.

The little hamlet of Ilouse, situated in a wild spot twenty miles from Nice, France, at an altitude of eight hundred yards, has been thrown into consternation recently because a baby has been carried off by an eagle. The parents of the baby had placed it in a cradle under the shelter of a shed before going to work in the fields. The eagle had been observed hovering over the village for some days and only a week before carried off a small pig from the same farmyard. A shepherd saw the bird swoop down and rise again with the child in its claws, but he was too far off to interfere. The rocks near the village where it was supposed the eagle had its nest have been thoroughly searched, but no trace of the baby has been found. There are other foes to the cradle besides eagles. From many a household the saloon has carried away the fairest one of the flock and continues in nearly every village and town in the land to gorge itself on the youth of our homes. If the people of Ilouse were to license this eagle to continue its work of feeding on babies they would only act with the same folly that Americans show toward the saloon. (136)

THE PROBLEMS OF MAN-FLIGHT

The Swiss newspapers announce the forthcoming launch of a new air ship over—not on—the Lake of Constance. The inventor is Count Von Zeppelin, a retired German officer, who has for many years studied the question of steering balloons. The vessel is over five hundred and fifty feet long and nearly fifty feet in diameter. It is cylindrical with conical extremities, and is divided internally by strong partitions. The hull is of silk, stretched over a skeleton of aluminum. The power is supplied by two motors placed beneath the cylinder, one at each end. The propelling principle is the ordinary screw. The inventor declares that his machine will be able to rise to a height of more than three thousand feet, travel at a speed of ten yards a second, and remain in the air for a week at a time. Man seems determined to fly. From the earliest ages he has been devising schemes for that purpose. This desire is prophecy that will probably be fulfilled. In the higher realm there is no doubt about this ability for flight. "They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings as eagles." (137)

TOO SLOW.

An engineer was taking through a special train consisting of four empty freight cars and a caboose. A station master told him that the down train was a trifle late, and due at the next station beyond seven miles away, at 2:37 o'clock. Glancing at his watch the engineer said he had nine minutes and decided to take the chance. He had to cross a bridge just beyond the town he was leaving, and midway across he began to increase his speed. As the engine struck the ground again on the other side and they headed straight up the river's valley he threw her wide open, and gave his engine every ounce of steam there was in the boiler. Three miles further on, when running to the limit of his capacity, he struck the down train head on. Both engineers and firemen were killed outright, and the engines reduced to a condition that rendered them only fit for the scrap heaps. The watch of the engineer of the special when found was still running, and was four minutes behind. This told the story of his fate. It was to this error of his time-piece that the tragic death of himself and his three companions was due. Many a man comes to grief by being behind time. Promptness in doing one's duty on the minute is a virtue of the greatest importance. (138)

A CASTLE AT AUCTION.

A little while ago one of the most historic castles in the world was sold in England. It was the Chepstow Castle and is one of the five Norman castles built during the reign of

William the Conqueror. This impressive ruined stronghold looks grandly down the River Wye and is regarded as one of the very finest of the ancient fortresses of England. It has a long, long story of warfare, bravery and treachery. It was the scene of many fights in the Civil War, between Charles the First and his Parliament, and when the Restoration brought Charles the Second to his throne, it became the prison of Henry Marten, one of the regicides, who was incarcerated here until his death. It is an example of how temporary is all the hold men can have on fame and power. The famous men who once took pride in this castle have long since given way before that arch invader, Death, and the castle which was their boasted stronghold is now in the hands of the auctioneer. The only real stronghold is in spiritual things over which death has no power. (139)

POWER OF MUSIC.

A young woman suffering with a crushed arm was recently brought to a hospital in Camden, New Jersey. The arm had to be amputated and as soon as she had been put on the operating table and quieted by the use of an anesthetic, in a sweet soprano, evidently a trained voice, she began to sing hymns, and all through the operation she sang. Hymn after hymn was gone through, and not until the doctors had entirely completed their terrible work did the songs cease. She was wise and fortunate in having learned these sweet hymns that she might sing them on such an occasion. It is better to go singing through life than to go moaning. (140)

COURAGE NEEDED IN CIVIL AFFAIRS.

Helen Gould has recently issued a very earnest letter of appeal to the Spanish War Veterans to interest themselves in opposition to the admission of the bigamist Roberts to a seat in Congress. There certainly is no work which the veteran soldiers of the Republic could more appropriately do than to follow her request. The duties of civil life often require courage of a higher order than that demanded on the battlefield. (141)

WHITE COFFIN NAILS.

Evanston, Illinois, used to have the best athletic teams of any high school in the country. But they have been steadily going down for several years and this year their football team has been a complete failure. The high school principal gives as the reason for it the use of cigarettes by the boys and young men in that school. The Principal says he has noticed boys who have come into the school bright, intelligent pupils, and seen them begin to fail both physically and intellectually until finally they were unable to carry their work and have left school complete failures. Nine out of ten of these cases have had their origin in the use of these "white coffin nails," as they have been called. Parents and teachers and all having control of boys should look out that these coffin nails are not driven into the bodies and minds of the children under their care before they have even had a chance to live. It is a suggestion also of the dangerous power of a little sin. (142)

QUEENLY SELF-CONTROL.

Throughout her long and arduous life Queen Victoria has never failed to keep her head, to see things in their true proportion, and to maintain a wise, sane, and equable outlook on public affairs. This wonderful Queen, in spite of the thousand temptations which must have arisen during her more than three score years of sovereignty has never shown fussyness, irritability, over-anxiety, or any other form of distraction and want of balance. There must have been plenty of steps taken in home and foregn affairs, plenty of bills passed and policies adopted, of which the Queen has most heartily and strongly disapproved. Again, there must have been plenty of cases in which statesmen have been raised to power by popular favor, or dismissed from power by the fickleness of public opinion, in which the Queen has entirely differed with the majority of her people. But through all this experience she has kept her balance of self-control, alike in storm and calm. England owes her long and pure reign to this wonderful self-mastery. If she had given up to fretting and worrying she would have been in her grave long ago. Christ gives us power to be master in the realm of our own spirits. (143)

NATURE'S INEXHAUSTIBLE RESOURCES.

Already the world's pessimists are beginning to worry lest the supply of coal will give out. But a recent writer shows that we are not dependent upon coal. The wheels of industry would not stop nor the forests be consumed for fuel if coal did give out. Already we have the

beginnings of a new method of utilizing natural energy which will prove enormously more effective than coal ever has been, and will be practically inexhaustible to whatever extent industry may expand. Electrical energy, developed by water power, will run the world's industries, furnish its light and heat, and be the universal substitute for all forms of combustion methods. Water power is practically unlimited, and it will be utilized more and more in proportion as the need for it arises and as its use becomes, at different places and successive periods, cheaper than coal. And what is true of the world at large is true of the individual child of God. The God who has been our friend and our Providence in the past will not desert us in the future. If we do our duty and march bravely on we may depend upon it he will supply "all our need" in an abundant manner. (144)

THE WORLD GROWING BETTER.

There are so many people who are discouraged and so many discouraging things come into all our lives, that it is wise for us to emphasize the fact now and then that bad as the world may sometimes seem to us it is really improving, and the leaven of righteousness continuing to pervade the heart of humanity. Ella Wheeler Wilcox sings this in some cheering lines:

"Oh, the earth is full of sinning
And of trouble and of woe,
But the devil makes an inning
Every time you say it's so;
And the way to set him scowling,
And to put him back a pace,
Is to stop this stupid growling,
And to look things in the face.

If you glance at history's pages,
In all lands and eras known,
You will find the vanished ages,
Far more wicked than our own.
As you scan each word and letter,
You will realize it more,
That the world to-day is better
Than it ever was before." (145)

DOING THINGS BACKWARD.

A butcher was recently taken to a hospital in Cincinnati, suffering from some strange disease that baffles medical science. One peculiarity of this man is that he does everything backward. One day he picked up a big butcher knife by the blade, severely cutting his fingers, and attempted to slice beef with the handle. In every line of work allotted to him he starts backward. He is himself unconscious of the fact that he is doing his work wrong. That is fortunately a very rare disease in physical work, but every preacher who has had much experience as a pastor, as well as every worker in social and moral reforms, can recall many a case of that kind of disease among people they have tried to work with in the advancement of society. (146)

GROWING BROTHERHOOD.

It is a common thing to see truckmen help one another in the streets. Doubtless there are plenty of truckmen who would go by another who was stalled and leave him to his own resources, but usually these dealers in heavy burdens are very brotherly to one another and there are no distinctions made in putting out the helping hands thus offered. One truckman is as likely to offer help as another, and to offer it to any man who needs help. Sometimes it is a man with a rather scarred and battered truck and with a team well fed and strong, but not very handsome in appearance, which gives a boost to some sleek street craft that is bright with paint and trimmings; and then again it is a man with a big new truck with every angle unbroken, with a big brass sign plate on either side, and with a pair of horses splendid as well as powerful, who gives help to the man who has an outfit that is battered and scarred. There can be no doubt that in all this hurry and worry of common life that sort of brotherhood is growing among men. Every Christmas time sees the Christmas spirit of brotherly kindness a little more widely scattered among men. (147)

LINES OF POWER.

Preparations are being made to use the power of the Falls of the Snoqualmie to furnish electricity to the cities of Seattle and Tacoma, respectively thirty-one miles and forty-five miles distant. The falls are two hundred and seventy feet high. A current of twenty thousand volts will be transmitted to these cities. The current is taken out of the transformer house and across the country on aluminum wires. The wires end at sub-stations in the two cities, where the current is again transformed to a low voltage and from there it is supplied to customers. A flour mill at Seattle is already running by electric power from Snoqualmie Falls. God communicates his spirit on the line of our faith. Its gracious influence must be transformed in our hearts and brought to bear on those about us who have not yet learned the beauty and the glory of Christ. (148)

AN ENEMY IN DISGUISE.

The story is told that in 1883 President Kruger found his government very much embarrassed for money. It looked as if a famine was going to overtake the land, but just then gold was found in the Barberton district. A messenger from the new gold fields took a sack of gold containing twenty ounces to the President, presenting it to him as the first yield of gold from the Transvaal. Kruger was astounded when he saw the gold. He asked where it came from, and was informed that it was from the Barberton district. "Is there any more left?" asked Kruger. He was told that the country was rich in gold ore, and that millions of pounds could be secured where that came from. "Thank God! My country is saved!" was his reply. In these days of war when those very gold mines threaten Boer sovereignty in the Transvaal he no doubt regards the discovery of gold as anything but a blessing to him and his people. Prosperity always brings its danger as well as its privilege. (149)

KINDNESS IN GREAT SOULS.

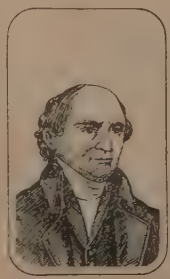
Mark Twain in a recent article on his first appearance in literature brings out in a very clear light the kind heart of Anson Burlingame, one of the greatest American diplomats, who has ever honored the United States. Twain was a young reporter in Honolulu and was laid up in his room sick and unable to walk. Just at this time a clipper ship was burned at sea and the survivors of her crew after a voyage of forty days at sea in an open boat reached Honolulu more dead than alive. The story was one of great interest and Mark Twain wanted above all things to take advantage of it. But he would have been utterly helpless had not Mr. Burlingame, who was on his way to China to take up his great work there, helped him out. He took mercy on this unknown reporter and came and put him on a stretcher and had him carried to the hospital where the shipwrecked men were. He even did more, he stayed and asked all the questions himself, so that the weak and sick young newspaper man had nothing to do but make the notes. Writing of it so many years afterwards, Mark Twain says, "It was just like him to take that trouble. He was a great man and a great American, and it was in his fine nature to come down from his high office and do a friendly turn whenever he could." The great natures are the gentlest. Christ, who came from all the glory of heaven was the gentlest man the world has ever seen. As we catch his spirit the atmosphere of the world takes on the genial climate of the skies. (150)

Thumb nail sketches of well known missionaries from "Missionary Annals of the 19th Century. See page facing index page.

Bishop Thoburn.

J. Hudson Taylor.

Robert Moffat.



William Carey.

J. G. Paton.

Christmas Verse.

God rest you, merry gentlemen,
Let nothing you dismay,
For Jesus Christ our Saviour
Was born upon this day,
To save us all from Satan's power
When we were gone astray.
O tidings of comfort and joy,
For Jesus Christ our Saviour was
Born on Christmas day.

—*Old English Carol.*

Come wealth or want, come good or ill,
Let young and old accept their part,
And bow before the awful will,
And bear it with an honest heart.
Who misses or who wins the prize—
Go lose or conquer as you can;
But if you fail, or if you rise,
Be each, pray God, a gentleman.

A gentleman, or old or young;
With tender and courteous ways—
Heed well the chorus that was sung
Upon the first of Christmas days;
The shepherds heard it overhead—
The joyful angels raised it then:
Glory to heaven on high it said,
And peace on earth to gentle men.

—*Thackeray.*

Sound over all waters, reach from all lands,
The chorus of voices, the clasping of hands;
Sing hymns that were sung by the stars of the morn,
Sing songs of the angel when Jesus was born!
With glad jubilations
Bring hope to the nations!
The dark night is ending and dawn has begun;
Rise, hope of the ages, arise like the sun,
All speech flow to music, all hearts beat as one.
Blow bugles of battle, the marches of peace;
East, west, north and south, let the quarrels all cease,
Sing the song of great joy that the angels began,
Sing of glory to God, and of good will to man!
Hark, joining the chorus
The heavens bend o'er us.

—*J. G. Whittier.*

This happy day, whose risen sun
Shall set not through eternity,
This holy day when Christ the Lord,
Took on him our humanity,
For little children everywhere
A joyous season still we make,
We bring our precious gifts to them,
Even for the dear Child Jesus' sake.

—*Phoebe Cary.*

Build thee more stately mansions, O my soul,
As the swift seasons roll;
Leave thy low vaulted past!
Let each new temple, nobler than the last,
Shut thee from heaven with a dome more vast
Till thou at length art free,
Leaving thine outgrown shell by life's unresting sea.

—*O. W. Holmes.*

Now that the time is come wherein
Our Savior Christ was born,
The larders full of beef and pork,
The garners filled with corn;
As God hath plenty to thee sent,
Take comfort of thy labors,
And let it never thee repent
To feast thy needy neighbors.

Take courage, soul, in grief cast down,
Forget the bitter dealing;
A Child is born in David's town,
To touch all souls with healing.
Then let us go and seek the Child,
Children like him, meek, undefiled.

—*Hans Christian Andersen.*

"Like him be true, like him be pure,
Like him be full of love;
Seek not thine own, and so secure
Thine own that is above.
And still, as Christmas-tide draws nigh,
Sing then of Jesus' birth;
Glory be to God on high,
And peace to men on earth."

O Saviour! Whom this holy morn
Gave to our world below;
To mortal want and labor born,
And more than mortal woe!

If gaily clothed and proudly fed,
In dangerous wealth we dwell,
Remind us of thy manger bed
And lowly cottage cell.

If pressed by poverty severe,
In envious want we pine,
Oh may Thy Spirit whisper near,
How poor a lot was Thine.

—*Reginald Heber.*

Upon thy mother's breast;
Great Lord of earth and sea and sky,
How sweet it is to see Thee lie
In such a place of rest.

Sleep, Holy Babe,
O take thy brief repose—
Too quickly will thy slumbers break,
And thou to lengthened pains awake
That death alone can close.

—*Edward Caswell.*

Hark! the herald angels sing,
Glory to the new born King:
Peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled.

—*Charles Wesley.*

What comfort by him do we win,
Who made himself the price of sin,
To make us heirs of glory?
To see this babe all innocence;
A martyr born in our defence;
Can man forget the story?

—*Ben Jonson.*

CURRENT ANECDOTES

(EXCLUSIVELY FOR PREACHERS.)

A paper furnishing illustrations and their morals, for religious public speakers.

(*Incorporating Cut Gems, Troy, N. Y.*)

PUBLISHED BY

CURRENT ANECDOTES CO.

Association Bldg, Cleveland, Ohio.

LOUIS ALBERT BANKS, - - - - EDITOR.
F. M BARTON, - PRES. AND EDITOR OF DEPARTMENTS.
J. H. NORTON, - - SECRETARY AND TREASURER.
YATES & KIMBALL, 1031 Temple Court, New York, EASTERN ADVERTISING AGENTS.
F. K. KAUFFMAN, Association Bldg, Chicago, WESTERN ADVERTISING AGENT.

SUBSCRIPTION: { In U.S., Canada and Mexico, ONE DOLLAR PER YEAR.
Foreign Subscriptions, 25c. extra, for postage.

[COPYRIGHTED BY CURRENT ANECDOTES CO., 1899.]

Entered at the Post Office at Cleveland, O., as second class matter.

Issued DECEMBER, 1899. Monthly

CONTENTS:

	PAGE.
ILLUSTRATIONS FROM CURRENT EVENTS,	67—80
CHRISTMAS VERSE,	81
EDITORIAL ANNOUNCEMENT,	82
DEPARTMENTS:	
GLEANED FROM LIFE,	83—85
NATURE AND SCIENCE,	85, 86
MEN AND MENTION,	86, 87
STATISTICAL FACTS AND POINTS,	87, 88
ANECDOTES BY ELI PERKINS,	89, 91
QUOTED FROM "BLACK ROCK."	91, 93
INDEX,	96
SCRIPTURE TEXTS ILLUSTRATED,	96

Several pages of the January issue of Current Anecdotes will be devoted to recommendations of books for a minister's library by some of the prominent men of the country. In connection with one list, from one of the high dignitaries in the Episcopal church, well known for his interest in the salvation of the lost, were the following earnest words. They are worthy of consideration. Speaking of a leading commentary, to be included in the list published in the next issue, he says: "I have never wanted any other. All that criticism has said, which is worth saying, is in it, and the late productions of the 'higher critics' are the baseless fabric of a dream. Because they throw discredit on the Bible, and the preacher who states 'doubts' does not instruct—he merely unsettles and takes from his people the only anchorage this world offers. It was the first step to absolute ruin, when the adversary insinuated to our first mother 'Yea, hath God said?' If a preacher doubts, let him keep it to himself, because doubt is indicative of ignorance. If he knew he would not doubt. Keep the difficulty in the mind's eye. Work at it, pray over it and it will assuredly in due time be solved." Speaking of James Vaughan's sermons, he says: "I owe more to that saint of God than all other ministers of the Word put together. Mr. Vaughan was the incumbent of Christ Church, Brighton, for over a generation. His delivery was wretched, his pronunciation as bad as possible. He had no organ in his plain church, but it was the only church in which I have stood all the service, unable to get a seat. He was a man of first-class mind. He took a First at Oxford and few men have attained his holiness of life. He preached with the power of the Holy Ghost and the vigorous perspicuity of St. Paul. There was a printer in Brighton, called Verrall, who took down in short hand his sermons and issued them, to the constant annoyance of the good man, but to the inestimable benefit of thousands of his fellow clergymen. In 'The American and Anglican Pulpit Library,' published by Pott, there are some 150 of his sermons. Let any one read them carefully and prayerfully and he will conclude they are worth all the rest. A volume of 50 of his sermons may occasionally be picked up at a second-hand book store. Copy Vaughan in his brevity. None of his sermons are over 20 minutes; in his application of God's word to daily life and in the revelation of the spiritual meaning of the text. The Homiletic Review, the Expositor, the Contemporary Pulpit, are all helpful. But the constant and careful study of the Word is the real fount from which to draw."

Mr. Rarey, the celebrated horse tamer, says that he has known an angry word to a horse to raise its pulse ten beats in a minute. Think, then, how it would affect a child.

AN IDOL.

From Missionary Annals of the 19th century.

See third page of Cover.

DEPARTMENTS.

Incidents Old and New, Biography, History, Art, Poetry, Hymnology, etc.

Edited by F. M. Barton.

GLEANED FROM LIFE.

Ugly and Pretty Sins.

A party of six girls was sent to Sing Sing Camp for a few days of fresh air. Their actions and conversations were sometimes very funny. They did not know how to take the country. They would hardly go ten feet away from their protector.

"Why, what are you afraid of?" said she to them one day, as they huddled about her out on a stroll.

The girls laughed sheepishly, but finally one of them owned up that they were "'fraid o' hop-toads!"

But within ten minutes a little yellow-striped snake slid through the grass at their feet and they all made a wild dash to catch the pretty thing in their hands! They did not get it, but it was not because they were "'fraid" of it. The deadliest sins are often most attractive. (824)

Promised Land.

The exodus of the Boers or the great "trek" from Cape Colony, 1834-6, in search of a locality where there would be no English, and where they could establish a government in which the English would have no voice. A large number of the Dutch (or Boers) of Cape Colony, sold their farms, mostly at a sacrifice, and set out to find a promised land, which their leaders thought would be on the banks of the Nile, but that river was never reached. The first party of ninety-eight, among whom were sixteen women and sixty-four children, under Louis Trichard and Johannes Rensberg, crossed the Orange River and began their long and weary pilgrimage which ended not at the Nile, but among the mud huts at Lourenzo, Marquez, whence twenty-eight (all that remained of the original ninety-eight) were carried by sea to Natal, where they found a Boer settlement composed of other trekers, under a Boer government established by Peter Relief, the noted Boer leader. What if the world made a great "trek" to find Christ? (825)

Serving Without Notice.

It is now almost two full centuries since England and Scotland were united, in 1707, under the name of Great Britain. Yet up to the present time the world continues to employ the familiar terms, English queen, English army, and so on, with no mention of Scotland. This slight has often been commented upon by Scotchmen, but never perhaps more happily than at Trafalgar. Two Scotchmen, messmates and bosom cronies, from the same little clachan, happened to be stationed near each other when the now celebrated signal was given from the admiral's ship: "England expects every man to do his duty!"

"No' a' word o' puir auld Scotland on this occasion!" dolefully remarked Geordie to Jock. Jock cocked his eye a moment and turning to his companion, "Man Geordie," said he, "Scotland kens weel eneuch that nae bairn o' hers needs to be tell't to do his duty—that's just a hint to the Englishers."—Our Commander appreciates us and is pleased when we do our duty. (826)

Farewells

The Turk will solemnly cross his hands upon his breast and make a profound obeisance when he bids you farewell.

The genial Jap will take his slipper off as you depart and say with a smile: "You are going to leave my despicable house in your honorable journeying—I regard thee!"

In the Philippines the parting benediction is bestowed in the form of rubbing one's friend's face with one's hand.

The German "lebe wohl" is not particularly sympathetic in its sound, but it is less embarrassing to those it speeds than the Hindoo's performance, who, when you go from him, falls in the dust at your feet.

The Fiji islanders cross two red feathers. The natives of New Guinea exchange chocolate. The Burmese bend low and say "Hib! Hib!"

The "Auf wiederschen" of the Austrians is the most feeling expression of farewell.

The Cuban would consider his good-by anything but a cordial one unless he was given a good cigar. The South Sea islanders rattle each other's whale teeth necklace.

The Sioux and Blackfeet will at parting dig their spears in the earth as a sign of confidence and mutual esteem. This is the origin of the term "burying the tomahawk."

In the islands in the straits of the Sound the natives at your going will stoop down and clasp your foot.

The Russian form of parting salutation is brief, consisting of the single word "praschai," said to sound like a sneeze. The Otaheite islander will twist the end of the departing guest's robe and then solemnly shake his own hands three times. The Christian "good-bye" is a contraction of "God be with you." Why contract it? (827)

Her Bridegroom's Uniform.

"One of the young gentlemen who have just been appointed in the regular army, was married only a few weeks ago, and his bride takes a great deal of interest in his uniform. He left his measure with a military tailor the

other day, and the next afternoon when she went out shopping she dropped in to give some instructions as to the manner in which it was to be trimmed. She wanted four bands of gold braid around the sleeve, like Admiral Schley had on his, and she instructed the tailor to put on her husband's coat a pair of shoulder straps that had silver birds embroidered on them, because they were prettier than any of the rest. Many people like to wear the regimentals of the church, but are not willing to take the position out from the world that would enable them to do so. (828)

Value of Diamonds.

Nobody knows just how much value in the shape of diamonds is kept in store at Kimberley, but it is certainly gigantic. Quite possibly it is $100,000,000 worth. The company has offices in London, but its headquarters are in the South African city, and there, in a building resembling a bank, the bulk of the gems is kept, stored away in vaults. If only a fraction of them were offered for sale at once the price of diamonds would promptly tumble, but the great corporation, owning as it does deposits which produce ninety-eight per cent of the world's entire yield of these precious stones, is able to control the market absolutely, and holds back a large part of its output, disposing of only a limited number of carats per annum.

The yield of the mines is about 5,500 carats every twenty-four hours. In one room are kept on exhibition stones aggregating 60,000 carats, and the spectacle they afford is most striking. What is the real value of a diamond? The price of one spent in doing good would bring forth a crop of sparkling tear-drops of joy. (829)

A Japanese Geisha Girl.

A geisha must be highly accomplished, because her chief duty is to amuse. While not by any means a musician, she must be able to perform on the samisen, koto, tzuzumi (a drum) and other musical instruments. She dances, sings, and talks on the lightest subjects, and always holds herself in readiness to entertain her guests according to their mood. A witty geisha, one who is a good talker, pretty and graceful, will not lack for employment at any time, and generally makes a very good living. While it is not at all necessary for her to arouse mirth, her object must be to beguile the time that is irksome to her guests. —Woman's Home Companion.—How many American geisha girls there are, who are nominal Christians and ought to be doing better things than their Japanese sisters. (838)

Faith of a Child.

Three-year-old Emma Bailey had heard the story of the "Babes in the Wood" so often that she was not at all frightened when she became lost in a chestnut grove with her two-year-old brother Willie, near Winsted, Conn.

"Don't cry, Willie," said she, wiping the tears from the little fellow's eyes. "We'll get in this big hole in the tree an' 'nen robins come and cover us wiv' leaves."

So the children crawled into a hollow tree on Canaan Mountain and cuddled down waiting for the robins.

While they were waiting they fell asleep, and were found snuggled closely together by their frantic parents. When Emma was awakened she looked about in a disappointed way and cried out: ""W'y, mamma, the robins didn't come, did they?" Old enough to have faith in fiction, why not old enough to have faith in the truth? Yet parents and others say wait until the mind is mature. Then it is too full of other things to think of Christ. (831)

Cocoanut Warship.

An interesting use is made of one of the warships of the British navy. Laden with cocoanuts instead of cannon balls, she is cruising among islands of the South Pacific, planting the nuts and other fruits on all islands which are in lack of them. The idea is that groves of cocoa palms will serve as guides to navigation, and will afford some shelter and sustenance to shipwrecked crews, besides, of course, increasing the value of the islands and their fitness for colonization. That is an errand of a warship to which not even the peace congress could object.—Cocoanut civilization has many advantages over cannon-ball civilization. (832)

God's Blessings and Love not Taxed.

Much remains outside of combinations and trusts, though the pessimistic may sometimes feel that the contrary is true. There is no scenery trust; no summer sight and sound company, limited; no common or preferred stock in sea and mountain; the stars remain on view for all comers; the dew is delivered without tax; nature is not endowed with corporation functions; in a word, God's world, in a large sense, is free for God's children. (833)

"Anything in the Prisoner's Favor."

A little while ago the writer, who lives in Dublin, visited the depot in the Phœnix Park where they train recruits for the Royal Irish Constabulary. In one large room they were being taught a catechism of police duties. Many of the questions were very suggestive, and showed constabulary work in a pleasant light. One was, "If you knew anything in the prisoner's favour, would you volunteer to tell it in court?" The answer was "Certainly." A lesson is taught here to those who talk against people at tea-parties and elsewhere. Instead of rejoicing in iniquity, scandalmongers should force themselves, if they know anything in the prisoner's favour, to say it. (834)

Love Your Enemies.

When the first gun was fired at Shiloh in 1832 General Grant was making his headquarters in the home of W. H. Cherry at Savannah, Tenn. The brothers of Mrs. Cherry were in the "rebel army" and her mother, Mrs. Irwin, was, of course, a secessionist, but by personal contact she had acquired a high opinion of General Grant, and the general had

learned to love and esteem her for her many Christian virtues, so that during Sunday of the battle he stationed a guard at the home of Mrs. Irwin in order to protect it and prevent its being used as a hospital during the bloody and historic battle then in progress. In a few hours the wounded and suffering soldiers were being brought back by the hundreds, and unable to keep her doors closed any longer she went out, dismissed the guards and gave orders to have the dying boys in blue brought into her house as long as there was room for one of them, saying, "These are the boys of loving mothers who somewhere today I'm sure would administer to my own suffering boy should he be carried to one of their doors in a dying condition" "But I say unto you love your enemies; do good to them which hate you."—T. M. Hurst. (835)

Our Inheritance.

The Philadelphia Record of recent date has the following: "Notice has been sent to Mayor Ashbridge that the heirs of John W. Miller desire to take possession of Philadelphia at once. The order was peremptory and couched in forcible legal language, and the presumption is that T. V. Roberts, who signed the letter as attorney, is a young man. The circumstances, briefly rehearsed in the letter, are these: John W. Miller owned the ground on which Philadelphia is now built, and disposed of it in a ninety-nine-year lease, dated in June, 1800. This lease must have expired June 1, 1899, says Mr. Roberts, and he appears quite surprised that the property was not promptly turned over to his clients. The mayor sent a reply to the effect that the question has been referred to the City Solicitor, but as the movements of the City Solicitor's office are slow and Mr. Roberts is a man of action, it is possible that he may appear any day and proceed to dispossess the million and a quarter people who occupy his clients' premises."

The ironical vein in which this is concluded is plain enough. Any such man will be laughed at for his pretensions even if apparently well founded. But it is extremely interesting to remember that five times in Psalms 37, the Lord promises that the meek shall inherit the whole earth, and the Lord Jesus puts His endorsement on the promises in Matt. 5:5. Many of them do not own a square foot of it just at present, but that is a small matter. Wait until the estate is settled up. There will likely be fewer fences then, too, for the meek will like to have some of the other folks enjoy their inheritance.—S. D. G. (836)

NATURE AND SCIENCE.

A Clean Coal Mine.

The Chilian coal mines, opened in 1855, seem to be nice places to work in. The seam of coal runs from the shore under the waters of the Pacific Ocean, and the tunnels are so clean that you could walk through them in a dress suit without making yourself dirty. They are lighted by electricity, and you can have a ride for a mile under the ocean on an electric car at a speed of twenty miles an hour. The mines form quite a catacomb of well-lighted passages under the water. The output of coal is now 1,000 tons a day, and 750 miners are employed in them.—I will cleanse from all unrighteousness. (837)

The Fire of Sin.

For 100 years and perhaps much longer a mountain in Colorado has been on fire. The Ute Indians say it was burning before the white man came. It is situated but a short distance west of Newcastle and the shadow of its smoke envelops the town at 5 o'clock every evening. The people of the region have become so accustomed to it that they pay little or no attention to the phenomenon. To the stranger thereabouts, however, the glittering patches of deep red fire, where it breaks out of the side of the mountain and is exposed to view, there is nothing in all the state quite its equal. The fire is fed by a big vein of coal which the mountain contains.

The escaping gas probably assists in stripping off the rocks and dirt and wherever the vein of coal approaches the surface the fire can be seen. The first fire I saw was fully fifty feet square. It had a peculiar red tint, while the burning gas coming up at the base of the coal vein added a bright color to the scene. In many places the surface of the mountain had sunk, showing where the fire has burned out its course.

Efforts have been made to extinguish the fire. Some time ago a company which owns a large amount of coal land constructed a ditch from a point several miles above the mountain, into which it succeeded in turning the water which goes to form Elk creek.

Previously a shaft had been sunk in the mountain and into this shaft the water was permitted to flow. The shaft was soon filled, but the fire was above the level of the water and the effort was a failure. Think of the world being on fire with sin. Sin is unquenchable—how many millions are required annually for fuel. (838)

He Made the Stars.

It is now proved beyond the shadow of a doubt that the familiar pole star, known to astronomers as Polaris, is in reality a double star. To be more exact, the polar star, which we see, has a companion, which is unseen, and the two revolve about each other, or rather about a common centre of gravity as the two balls of a dumbbell might revolve if suspended by the connecting bar. Polaris and its unseen companion make a complete revolution in three days. Both together, or the three, if there be three, are moving toward the earth with a velocity of nine miles per second, 540 miles a minute, 32,400 miles an hour, 777,600 miles a day, 283,824,000 miles a year.—Yet men curse God, and if He but removed His hand what a wreck of worlds there would be. (839)

Full Many a Gem.

There is a beautiful bird called the rosy gull, very few specimens of which exist in any museum, and whose entire life is spent in the immediate neighborhood of the eternal ice that surrounds the North Pole. A paper describing these curious birds was read at the recent meeting of the American Association in Boston by Mr. John Murdoch. They follow the advance of the ice toward the south as winter comes on, keeping near the loose edge of the floating pack ice, and then retreat with it toward the north when the summer sun begins to rise high upon the Arctic circle. The bird is small and of a deep rose color, whereas all other gulls are white. The Creator has not forgotten or slighted the coldest corners of the earth in distributing beautiful gifts, and His love shines through blood of His Son into the coldest hearts. (840)

Worship and Communion.

There is a class of animals—the cetaceous, neither fish nor seafowl—that inhabits the deep. It is their home, they never leave it for the land, yet though swimming beneath the waves, and sounding its darkest depths, they have ever and anon to rise to the surface that they may breathe air. And something like what is imposed on them by physical necessity, the Christian has to do by a spiritual one. Only by rising up to God through prayer and praise into a loftier, purer region, he maintains his spiritual life.—Dr. Guthrie. (841)

Not Really a Failure.

Over a deep gorge in Arizona lies a great agatised tree forming a natural bridge. Ages ago it fell in its prime, apparently a failure. Yet, gradually changed, it is now a tree of solid agate, become of noble use and great value—used by countless human feet to cross the chasm. Christ Himself seemed a failure, yet He became the Bridge between earth and heaven on which His redeemed passed over. Once rejected—now honoured.—Dr. Miller. (842)

"The Light of Life."

Ozone is a more powerful gas than oxygen. By electricity oxygen is changed into azone.

Vogel says: "This ozone is also formed by the operation of light."

On a cloudless day everyone realizes that a new vigor and buoyancy have entered his physical being. Activity is delightful, resolution is strong, the future is hopeful. When one walks in the light of the world there is realized a constantly renewed spiritual life and energy.—John 8: 12.—Joseph B. Cherry. (843)

MEN AND MENTION.

Just as I Am.

Hawthorne in his English Note-Books, published by his wife after his death, so that the passage was not written particularly for the public eye, gives a sketch of his own sympathetic nature, which contradicts his general austere, reticent manner. By invitation he accompanied a party on a visit to an English workhouse. In the children's ward were several unattractive boys and girls. One, the most unlovely and diseased of all, attached himself to Hawthorne, taking hold of his skirts and then his hands. Finally the child stood before him, holding up his hands to be taken with "such perfect confidence that it was going to be taken up and made much of, that it was impossible not to do it. It was as if God had promised the child this favor on my behalf, and that I must needs fulfil the contract."—W. H. Small.—Hawthorne did not disappoint the child and neither does Jesus disappoint the most sinful. (844)

Relinquished.

The death of George Smith of Chicago at the Reform Club, Pall Mall, removes one of London's most notable clubmen. On inquiry at the club it was told that Mr. Smith had been confined to his room for twelve months and died of senile decay.

He had had a room there for nearly thirty years, his only change of residence being when he went occasionally on a visit to his friends in Scotland.

His life had been almost entirely solitary and he died in the presence only of his doctor and a club attendant. Stories of his vast wealth find little credence among his friends at the Reformed Club, but he was undoubtedly a rich man, and as he lived most frugally his fortune must have been constantly increasing. He never spent more than $2,500 a year.

A wealthy man upon being asked to give to the Y. M. C. A., by remembering it in his will, replied, "That would not be giving: that would be relinquishing." (845)

Quality, Not Quantity.

Chancellor McDowell in his baccalaureate address spoke of having given degrees to three hundred and fifty young men and women and of the possibilities of this army of educated young people: "A smaller number than that held the pass at Thermopylæ. A smaller number than that captured the heights of Lookout Mountain. This was the number of Scotchmen who marched out with Chalmers at their head to make a free Church. This was the number of Waldenses who fought their way back through incredible hardships to recapture the Piedmont valleys for liberty and truth. It is almost exactly the number of Gideon's band. The charge of the Light Brigade was made by only a few more than this. It is five times as many as the seventy, and twenty-five times as many as the twelve who turned the world upside down and changed the face of the centuries. The Mayflower carried only one hundred souls, but they had empires in their brains and mighty nations in their hands."

Dewey's Thanksgiving.

Evidently the welcome given Admiral Dewey on his return did not turn his head. After he had gone from New York to Washington and received his sword, he who had for so many days had constituted the center of innumerable hosts had one chosen wish still to fill; and the worshipers in a modern urban chapel near Washington saw him bowed upon his knees while the rector at the desk read "by request" the words of devout thanksgiving: "Most gracious Lord, whose mercy is over all thy works; we praise thy holy name that thou has been pleased to conduct in safety, through the perils of the great deep this thy servant, who now desireth to return thanks unto thee in thy holy church. May he be duly sensible of thy merciful providence toward him, and ever express his thankfulness by a holy trust in thee, and obedience to thy laws, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen." It is the best and most fitting close to a splendid and most memorable incident. (847)

Inconsistencies.

When a young man of twenty-five or six, Professor Hadley had occasion to attend a dinner where there were some very eminent military gentlemen, and during the after-dinner speaking one of the latter referred to the battle of Waterloo, declaring that it was beyond his comprehension how certain particular forms of tactics could have been carried out on that field.

Others who were present afterward expressed themselves as being of the same opinion; but when Professor Hadley quietly taking some pieces of bread laid out the battlefield in miniature and described his idea of the matter until every professional soldier in the company confessed that he was convinced. Here was a young man, half the age of his associates. A man who had never studied military matters in the schools; and yet in a few minutes disposed of the apparent inconsistency. Theologians often stumble at statements in the book, made plain by observation or the life of some ordinary man. (848)

The Source of His Courage.

Like most men of high courage, Gen. Joseph E. Wheeler is a deeply religious man. He was brought up in the Episcopal Church, with reverence for sacred things and faith in the efficacy of prayer. One of his former secretaries tells in the Chicago Record that some years ago, when the general was engaged in a canvass for Congress, he spent the night at the house of a constituent.

His host accompanied him to the room at bedtime, and bade him good night, but being reminded that the general might want a glass of water before retiring, he carried a pitcher to the room and entered without knocking. He was surprised to find General Wheeler on his knees before the bed engaged in his devotions. He waited reverently until the general rose, and apologized for the intrusion.

"Don't mention it," said General Wheeler. "I think all of us ought to kneel before we retire, and thank our Maker for His mercies."

The members of General Wheeler's staff say that during the Santiago campaign he never lay down to sleep without offering a prayer, and never rose in the morning without thanking God for His protection. (849)

STATISTICAL FACTS AND POINTS.

Thibet has an area of 750,000 square miles, about as large as the United States east of the Mississippi river. The greatest length from east to west is 1,500 miles. and the population is estimated at 8,000,000. It is the stronghold of Buddhism. Lhassa, the capital, is the "Rome" of the Buddhists, and the Dalai Lama is the Buddhist pope. He is supreme in both temporal and spiritual things. One monastery has about 5,000 Buddhist priests, and there are about 60,000 in the country. Thibet is virgin soil for missions. The country is tributary to China. (850)

The earth's population is 1,500,000,000, of which more than 1,000,000,000 are yet non-Christian say 800,000,000 heathen, and 200,000,000 Mohammedan; 200,000,000 are Roman Catholic, and 150,000,000 are Protestant. For the world's redemption Protestants are giving annually about $15,000,000; sustain a missionary force of 14,200, of whom 4,300 are ordained and 3,380 are unmarried women; associated with them are 4,200 ordained natives; about 80,000 toilers in all. The stations and out-stations occupied exceed 25,000; the communicants are upwards of 1,300,000, and increase at the rate of 75,000 annually; the adherents are estimated at 3,5000,000, while almost 1,000,000 children and youth are being educated in the more than 20,000 schools.

It appears, then, that while an excellent beginning has been made "there remaineth yet very much land to be possessed" and that while there is much for which to be thankful, there is still urgent need that all who love the Gospel of Jesus Christ go forward with unabated zeal in the work of the world's evangelization.—From "Missionary Annals of the 19th Century," published by F. M. Barton, Cleveland, O. (851)

If Dr. George Lorimer's figures can be depended upon, the American churches gave something less than four millions for foreign missions last year, and the American people spent somthing more than 25 millions for chewing gum. When the vast totals of the expenditures for amusements, for tobacco and for intoxicating drinks, about $2,100,000,000 in all, are set against the totals for education and for religion, the contrast is even more painfully suggestive. We spend our money for what we like. If we really prized our religion as much as we think we do, we should spend our money for it with far more freedom than now. (852)

Over 82,000 arrests were made in Chicago last year, and 75 per cent of them were due to drink. This statement is made, not by a "temperance fanatic," but by the city prosecutor of Chicago. (853)

Dr. Hargreaves of Philadelphia, a statistician of world-accepted authority, says that not counting moderate drinkers, of whom there are more than 2,000,000, there are 700,000 drunkards in the United States alone. If this is true, then according to Dr. Hillis' line of reasoning, the economic loss to the country at large through the non-productivity of these 700,000 drunkards is $7,000,000,000—a sum eight times as great as the total banking capital of all the states of the union. Cut these figures in two, and the loss is still $3,500,000,000. Think what this money would accomplish in evangelizing the world. (854)

Statisticians reckon the average man's value at $600 a year. Each worker in wood, iron or brass stands for an engine or industrial plant worth $10,000, producing at 6 per cent, an income of $600. The death of the average workman, therefore, is equivalent to the destruction of a $10,000 mill or engine. The economic loss through the non-productivity of 20,000 drunkards is equal to one Chicago fire involving $200,000,000. The fire of sin consumes more than the greatest conflagrations. (855)

About the winter of 1894 the infidel oracle found voice, and through the columns of a New York paper gave, in substance, the following advice: "When you are sick or poor, or in trouble or disgrace, and see no way out, go and hang yourself; blow out your brains; swallow poison, commit suicide." That year, 1894, there were 4,912 suicides in the United States—an increase of 452 over the previous year; and numbers of the suicides had on their person copies of the infidel arguments showing that suicide was no sin. One New York editor testifies that a dozen instances of suicide have occurred where these same documents were in evidence in the case. (856)

In London, where more Bibles are printed than in any city on earth, there are 87 suicides to a million people in a year; but Paris, gay, Godless, Christless, Sabbathless, has 592 suicides to a million; or more than six times as many as London in proportion to the population. (857)

We hear something about foreign missions, and considerable about home missions on the frontiers but there is a kind of missionary work which seems to be very much neglected. Some years ago Archdeacon Jefferies stated that in India "for one really converted Christian as a fruit of missionary labor, the drinking practices of the English had made fully a thousand drunkards." The Missionary Review of the World says: Christendom has introduced 70,000 gallons of rum to every missionary. In the great Congo Free State, there are one hundred drunkards to one convert. Under the maddening influence of intoxicating drink sent from New England, 200 Congoans slaughtered each other. One gallon of rum caused a fight in which fifty were slain." (858)

A recent statistician presents the following figures as indicating the physical condition and suggesting the moral condition of the human race. He says: "The human family living on earth today consists of about 1,450,000,000 persons in round numbers. Of these only about 500,000,000, or one-third, are properly clothed; 250,000,000 habitually go naked; 700,000,000 have only the middle part of their body covered; only 500,000,000 live in houses, 700,000,000 in huts or caves, while the remaining 250,000,000 have no home or shelter whatever." (859)

A statement of losses in this country by embezzlements, forgeries, bank-wreckings, and the like, during the year just closed, gives an aggregate of toward six million dollars. Only twenty-one thousand dollars of the amount is credited to the postmasters. (860)

Close investigation is proving to the Kaiser that the German beer-drinking soldier has only 80 or 85 per cent of the endurance of the total abstainer, and his economists are calling attention to the bad effects that increasing drink habits have upon German industries. (861)

"Where is the lesson this week?" is the too prevalent question of Sunday-school teachers Saturday night, or, worse still, on Sunday morning. Every Sunday-school teacher who is busy, and that includes all but a few, should carry the "Vest Pocket Commentary on the International Lessons for 1900." The idle moments of the week, on the car, and waiting for some one, can be used to get your lesson if you carry this booklet. It is published by Fred D Ewell, 126 Market street, Chicago, for 25 cents, special interlined edition 50 cents. The latter is specially valuable for ministers, many of whom want to keep in touch with the lesson, even though they do not always teach a class.

A Nebraskan writes the following: While staying over Sunday in a certain town, I strolled into one of the nearest churches. The usher, with a bow and pleasant smile, showed me to a seat. After a splendid sermon, which made a good impression on me at least, and another song and prayer, the congregation went out. The usher stationed himself at the door, and, seeing me and several other newcomers, he gave each one of us a small card, on which was printed an invitation to come again and to visit the pastor at his residence. Although it is nearly ten years since this incident happened, it lives fresh in my memory as if it had been yesterday. Cards with time of services, with a blank space for the name of the usher or one who presents makes strangers feel that they know the name of one person, and that often keeps one from getting lonesome.

ANECDOTES BY ELI PERKINS.

Eli Perkins

[Note.—Eli Perkins, the famous lecturer, has taken a kindly interest in the welfare of Current Anecdotes, and through this kindness we are enabled to give a page of his anecdotes.]

Consumer and Producer.

"Coming through Chicago," he said last night, "I saw a grand procession in honor of Gambrinus. Such beautiful chariots—such decorated carriages, and such a procession of men marching to music!

"'Who rode in the chariots?' you ask.

"Why, the rich millionaire beer producers and their daughters in satins and diamonds.

"'Who rode in the decorated carriages?'

"The rich wholesale dealers and their wives—the men who handle the product of the producers.

"'Who rode in the one horse carriages?'

"The prosperous saloonkeepers who sell the product to the people.

"'Who were the poor, sad-faced, ragged men who footed it along in the mud?'

"Oh, they were the consumers." (862)

A True Fortune-Teller.

A weak, tottering man was having his fortune told.

"I see," said the fortune-teller, closing her eyes, "I—see—the—name—of—JOHN."

"John? Ah! yes, I might have known it."

"And this John has caused you much trouble."

"I fear he has. How did you know it?"

"And John often leads you to do things you are sorry for. He keeps you in trouble all the time."

"I'm afraid so," said the sitter, mournfully.

"His influence over you is very bad."

"And I never suspected it."

"But it will grow worse. He will constantly threaten your life, but you will stick to him. Your dearest friends and your sorrowing wife will warn you against him, but you will not believe them. While your dear wife's tears trickle down on the baby's face you will kick her and go off with this wicked John."

"Oh, my God! What else can you read?"

"Then, some day John will kill you."

"Great Heavens! Can you spell out his full name?"

"Yes; the seventh daughter of the seventh reads D-E-M-I."

"Demi what?"

"Demi-John." (863)

Business Man's Opinion of Christ.

"Gentlemen, for the head of the Philippine Commission," said President McKinley, "I want a pure-minded, moral, Christian man—frugal and self-sacrificing—a perfect man."

"I think," interrupted Secretary Alger, thoughtfully, "that you won't find him."

"Why not?"

"Because I think he was crucified 1900 years ago." (864)

Ingersoll's Mistake.

When I was writing my "Kings of Platform and Pulpit," Robert Ingersoll kindly sent me what he called his greatest lecture, "Liberty of Man, Woman and Child," with many other of his most brilliant sketches.

"In using my speeches," he wrote, "do not use any assault I may have thoughtlessly made on Christ, which I foolishly made in my early life. With Renan, I believe Christ was the only perfect man. 'Do unto others' is the perfection of religion and morality. It is the summum bonum. It was loftier than the teachings of Socrates, Plato, Mahomet, Moses or Confucius. It superseded the commandments that Moses claimed to have gotten from God, for with Christ's 'do unto others' there could be no murder, lying, covetousness or war. It superseded Greek patriotism, Roman fortitude or Anglo-Saxon bravery, for with 'do unto others' bravery and patriotism would not be needed." (865)

Profitless.

Did any one ever make a cent out of profanity? No! you did it for nothing. You swearers work cheap. You lay aside your character of gentlemen, inflict pain upon your friends, break a commandment and lose your own souls—and for nothing! You do certainly work cheap—very cheap!

"Was a drunkard ever benefited by whisky? No! The barkeeper buys a gallon of whisky for $1.50. He sells out of this gallon 65 15-cent drinks for $9.75. My poor drunken friend, you are out $9.75, and the barkeeper has your money, while you have a headache, have disgraced and impoverished your family and become a brute. My friend, if you must drink, hand the gallon of whisky to your poor wife and let her make $8.25 out of it for your poor, shivering children!" (866)

Advice to Daughters.

I once heard a bowed down father talking to a careless daughter whom he loved.

"'Lizzie,' he said, looking in her deep blue eyes and stroking her golden hair, 'Lizzie, I want to speak to you of your mother. It may be that you have noticed a careworn look upon her face. Of course, it has not been brought there by any act of yours; still it is your duty to chase it away. I want you to get up tomorrow morning and get breakfast. When your mother comes and begins to express surprise go right up to her and kiss her on the mouth. You can't imagine how it will brighten her dear face.

"'Besides, you owe her a kiss or two. Away back, when you were a little girl, she kissed you when no one else was tempted by your

DR. BANKS' BOOKS.

"There is no more distinguished example of the modern people's preacher in the American pulpit today than Dr. Banks."—**The New York Independent.**

Therefore every minister should have one or more of these books in his library.

Every one of Dr. Louis Albert Banks' books has been enthusiastically endorsed and recommended by the religious press and pulpit of the country. We quote only a sentence, and in some cases, for want of space, nothing.

Seven Stirring Revival Books.

Revival literature has seldom if ever received so large and so valuable a contribution from one man as it has gained from these vigorous and brilliant sermons of Dr Banks The sermons are intensely practical, and yet they are made captivating by many illustrative anecdotes and stories. They are entirely free from the sensationalism, which is sometimes found in revival literature.

All of the sermons in these books have been preached by the author and their qualities fully tested. Gracious revivals of religion have been awakened by their delivery, and a large number of persons have been converted and received into the church as a result.

TITLES	PRICE, Post-paid
John and His Friends.....	$1 50

This book contains thirty-three clear, straight, and forceful revival sermons, with texts from the Gospel of John.

The Burlington Hawk-Eye, Burlington, Iowa: "A very gracious revival of religion was awakened by their delivery."

The Fisherman and His Friends.....	1 50

Containing studies from the life of Peter the Fisherman, in the form of thirty-one sermons, their subjects being strong, stimulating and novel in treatment, and the texts taken from the Gospels of John, Mathew and the Acts.

National Presbyterian, Indianapolis: "One of the most marked revivals attended their delivery, resulting in hundreds of conversions."

Paul and His Friends.....	1 50

Thirty-one eloquent and vigorous revival sermons, richly freighted with suggestive and illustrative material. They unfold many fresh and striking facts relative to the life of Paul.

The Outlook, New York: "Contains much illustrative and suggestive material concerning the life of Paul."

Christ and His Friends.....	1 50

Thirty-one stirring revival sermons (texts from St. John's Gospel,) simple and direct in style and wholly devoid of oratorical artifice, but rich in natural eloquence and soul-kindling fervor

Independent, New York: "This volume fairly thrills and rocks with the force injected into its utterance."

The Revival Quiver.....	1 50
Anecdotes and Morals.....	1 50

Over five hundred striking illustrations drawn from every day incidents, each acco panied by a clear and forceful character lesson. Events which have occurred during the past few months have been ingeniously written into interesting little stories embracing truths which are sure to prove more attractive than mere platitudes.

A Series of Sunday Night Revival Sermons (JUST OUT.).....	1 50

Six Books for the Young.

TITLES	PRICE, Post-paid
Chats with Young Christians.....	40
My Young Man.....	75

Practical and straightforward talks to young men. They are devoted to the consideration of the young man in his relationship as a son, a brother, a member of society, a lover, a husband, a citizen, a young man and his money, and the young man as himself.

"The aim of these addresses, or character studies, is to arouse in young men a love and respect for things that they are too apt to regard lightly."—*Washington Post.*

The Christian Gentleman.....	75

Bright and chatty talks to young men on practical matters of every-day life. They are vigorous, manly, and sensible. Apt illustrations give life and warmth to almost every page. These talks treat of all the essentials of the true gentleman.

"Incident and illustration give life and beauty to every page We would like to place this volume in the hands of every young man we know."—*Christian Observer*, Louisville, Ky.

Sermon Stories for Boys and Girls.....	1 00

Short stories of special interest to boys and girls, with which are interwoven lessons of practical helpfulness for young minds. Of special value in the nursery, Sunday school, or preacher's study.

Hero Tales from Sacred Story.....	1 50

Eighteen stories of stirring heroism. It is the object to popularize the wealth of stories found in the Bible and to clothe in modern dress and language the Scripture tales so that they stand out revitalized, and as clear-cut appeals to nineteenth-century appreciation. Nineteen full page, half-tone reproductions of famous modern paintings or sculpture.

"Many timely lessons of honor and faith; of fidelity and worth."—*Bishop J. F. Hurst.*

An Oregon Boyhood.....	1 25

Twelve Books for Everybody.

The Saloon-keeper's Ledger.....$	75

Powerful temperance revival discourses dealing with every feature of the saloon evil.

Seven Times Around Jericho.....	75

Seven strong and stirring temperance discourses combining spiritual enthusiasm with perfectly rational reasoning. With an Introduction by C. H. MEAD, D D.

The People's Christ. (SERMONS.).....	1 25
The White Slaves. (LECTURES ON SOCIAL PROBLEMS.).....	1 50
Common Folks' Religion. (SERMONS.)..	1 50
Honeycomb of Life. (SERMONS.).....	1 50
The Christ Dream (SERMONS.).....	1 20
The Christ Brotherhood. (SERMONS)...	1 20
Heroic Personalities. (HEROIC SKETCHES)	1 00
Heavenly Trade Winds. (SERMONS.)...	1 25
The Unexpected Christ. (SERMONS.)....	1 50
Immortal Hymns and Their Story....	3 00
A Year's Prayer Meeting Talks. (JUST OUT.).....	1 00

ANY OF THESE BOOKS SENT, POST PAID, ON RECEIPT OF PRICE.

CURRENT ANECDOTES CO.,
22 Association Building. **CLEVELAND, O**

fever-tainted breath and swollen face. You were not as attractive then as you are now. Through years of childish sunshine and shadows she was always ready to cure by the magic of a mother's kiss the little, dirty, chubby hands whenever they were injured in those first skirmishes with the rough old world.

"'And then the midnight kisses with which she routed so many bad dreams, as she leaned over your restless pillow, have all been on interest these long years.

"'Of course, she is not so pretty and kissable as you are, but if you had done your share of the work during the last ten years the contrast would not be so marked.

"'Her face has more wrinkles than yours. And yet if you were sick that face would appear far more beautiful than an angel's as it hovered over you, watching every opportunity to minister to your comfort, and every one of those wrinkles would seem to be bright wavelets of sunshine chasing each other over the dear face.

"'She will leave you one of these days. These burdens, if not lifted from her shoulders, will break her down. These rough, hard hands which have done so many necessary things for you will be crossed upon her lifeless breast. Those neglected lips, which gave you your first baby kiss, will be forever closed, and those sad, tired eyes will have opened in eternity, and then you will appreciate your mother, but it will be too late.'" (867)

QUOTED FROM "BLACK ROCK."

[Black Rock, published by Fleming H. Revell Co., Chicago., is one of the best religious novels published. It was read by Mr. Moody, and is heartily endorsed and approved by F. B. Meyer. It is one of the books ministers will be glad to recommend.]

Christmas Eve in a Lumber Camp.

After a gospel talk by Craig, the preacher, Nelson stops his sleigh and questions him as follows:

"Mr. Craig, are you dead sure of this? Will it work?"

"Do you mean," said Craig, taking him up promptly, 'can Jesus Christ save you from your sins and make a man of you?"

The old man nodded, keeping his hungry eyes on the other's face.

"Well, here's His message to you: 'The Son of Man is come to seek and to save that which which was lost.'"

"To me? To me?' said the old man, eagerly.

"Listen; this, too, is His Word: 'Him that cometh unto Me I will in no wise cast out.' That's for you, for here you are, coming."

"You don't know me, Mr. Craig. I left my baby fifteen years ago because——"

"Stop!" said the minister. "Don't tell me, at least not tonight; perhaps never. Tell Him who knows it all now, and who never betrays a secret. Have it out with Him. Don't be afraid to trust Him."

Nelson looked at him, with his face quivering, and said in a husky voice, "If this is no good, it's hell for me."

"If it is no good," replied Craig, almost sternly, "it's hell for all of us."

The old man straightened himself up, looked up at the stars, then back at Mr. Craig, then at me, and, drawing a deep breath, said: "I'll try Him." As he was turning away the minister touched him on the arm, and said, quietly, "Keep an eye on Sandy tomorrow."

Nelson nodded, and we went on; but before we looked back and saw what brought a lump in my throat. It was old man Nelson on his knees in the snow, with his hands spread upward to the stars.

Black Rock Religion.

Following is a discussion as to the hopelessness of starting a church in Black Rock:

"Hopeless! hopeless!" he cried; "there were only twelve of us at first to follow Him, and rather a poor lot they were. But He braced them up, and they conquered the world."

"But surely things are different," said Graeme.

"Things? Yes! yes! But He is the same." His face had an exalted look, and his eyes were gazing into far-away places.

"A dozen men in Black Rock with some real grip of Him would make things go. We'll get them, too," he went on in growing excitement. "I believe in my soul we'll get them."

"Look here, Craig; if you organize I'd like to join," said Graeme impulsively. I don't believe much in your creed or your church, but I'll be blowed if I don't believe in you."

Craig looked at him with wistful eyes, and shook his head. "It won't do, old chap, you know. I can't hold you. You've got to have a grip of some one better than I am; and then, besides, I hardly like asking you now;" he hesitated—"well, to be out-and-out, this step must be taken not for my sake, nor for any man's sake, and I fancy that perhaps you feel like pleasing me just now a little."

"That I do, old fellow," said Graeme, putting out his hand. "I'll be hanged if I won't do anything you say."

"That's why I won't say," replied Craig. Then reverently he added, "The organization is not mine. It is my Master's."

"When are you going to begin?" asked Graeme.

"We shall have our communion service in two weeks, and that will be our roll-call."

"How many will answer?" I asked doubtfully.

"I know of three," he said quietly.

"Three! There are two hundred miners and one hundred and fifty lumbermen! Three!" and Graeme looked at him in amazement. "You think it worth while to organize three?"

"Well," replied Craig, smiling for the first time, "the organization won't be elaborate, but it will be effective, and, besides, loyalty demands obedience." (869)

A VALUABLE SUNDAY SCHOOL HELP.

VEST POCKET COMMENTARY

By DE LOSS M. TOMPKINS, D. D.

THE S. S. LESSONS IN A NUT-SHELL

Not the Scripture Text alone, but a COMMENTARY with a large amount of practical, suggestive

STUDY HELPS

such as Comments, Daily Readings, Outline Study and Seed Thoughts. Never before has anything so truly COMPACT, SYSTEMATIC and PRACTICAL been offered the S. S. worker. It is not a compilation, but all ORIGINAL, FRESH, BRAINY.

Convenient, Comprehensive, Concise.

S. S. TIMES: "A unique and reasonably successful attempt to enable busy people to prepare their Sunday School lessons in their one spare moment.' The 'Reflections' are excellent."

A SPLENDID PRESENT — A HELP FOR LEADERS OF MEETINGS.

3 STYLES Art Linen, 25 cts. Leather, gold edges, 35 cts. Leather, Interleaved, ruled for notes. 50 cts.

PUBLISHED BY

FRED D. EWELL, - 126 MARKET ST., CHICAGO.

130,745 Now in Use

BIG SERVICE. LITTLE COST.

Its convenient Hot Water Supply, so necessary to any bath; and that it may be used in a bath or any other room to equal advantage, in connection with water service, or independently, is what is making the "Mosely" famous.

Complete with heater $39.00 up, delivered east of Rocky Mountains. Monthly payments if wanted. 20 styles. Send for catalog of Tubs and Heaters.

Gas, Gasoline or Oil.

MOSELY FOLDING BATH TUB CO.

"A. H." 358 Dearborn Street, CHICAGO.

Agents Wanted

In every town to sell our Non-Alcoholic Flavoring Powders, Extracts, Perfumery and Toilet Perparations to the consumer. Permanent employment. Large Cash Profits or Valuable Premiums Given. Territory protected. No money required in advance. We pay the freight. For full particulars, address

KIDD CHEMICAL CO.,
2214 Wabash Avenue, Chicago, Ill.

In answering mention CURRENT ANECDOTES

Every Minister in the Country

Should have

The Lawton Simplex Printer.

It is the simplest and cheapest process ever invented. Its work is an exact facsimile of ordinary writing. Drawings can be reproduced in several colors at one printing. One hundred copies of the original can be produced in twenty minutes.

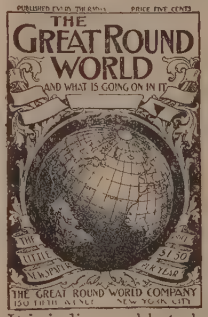
No Washing. No Drying. No Inky Fingers.

The original is written on any ordinary paper, with any pen, and from this 100 copies can be made.

When you want to send out notices to your church members or for Sunday-school work it is a great labor saver and invaluable; also for copying music. Send for circulars and sample of work. Agents wanted.

LAWTON & CO.

CHICAGO, 59 Dearborn Street. NEW YORK. 30 Vesey Street.


PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY
PRICE FIVE CENTS
THE GREAT ROUND WORLD
AND WHAT IS GOING ON IN IT
THE GREAT ROUND WORLD COMPANY
150 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK CITY

THE GREAT ROUND WORLD

is a pocket size weekly news magazene of forty or more pages.

It tells in a bright, graphic, and intensely interesting way all the news of the world, minus the crimes and scandals. It is indispensable to busy people and should be placed in the hands of all children, as it keeps them informed and inculcates a love of good literature without bringing them into contract with any contaminating influences.

It is used in many schools as a supplementary reading.

As a Christmas or New Years gift nothing could be more welcom and appropriate. When presented in this manner a handsome certificate, illuminated in gold is sent to the recipient stating the fact and giving the name of the doner. Only $2.00 a year.

Sample copies for a two cent stamp if Current Anecdotes is mentioned.

THE GREAT ROUND WORLD CO.
150 Fifth Ave., New York.

Sample pair of Each o 6 Sizes, With Keys, for 75 cents.

"Turn Over a New Leaf."

The KLIP and the Cover form the KLIP Binder. Sold and used separately or together.

BIND ALL YOUR PAPERS AT HOME.

You can cover a Magazine or bind a Volume of Pamphlets in Ten Seconds Instantly removable.

The Klip is a strong and graceful steel spring.
It is put on with a pair of steel keys.
It is put on and off in ten seconds.
It is the best Binder for Magazines in the Reading Room.
It is the best Binder for Pamphlets.
It is the cheapest Binder for Loose-Leaf Ledgers

H. H. BALLARD, 412 Pittsfield, Mass.

STEREOPTICONS MAGIC LANTERNS and SLIDES CONDENSED CATALOGUE FREE RILEY BROS. 16 BEEKMAN ST. NEW YORK.

The Prodical Son.

The lumbermen meet in one af the stalls at the barn and Sandy reads the story of the prodigal son:

After the reading, Sandy handed the book to Nelson, who put it in his pocket, saying, "That's for us, boys, ain't it?"

"Ay," said Lachlan; "it is often that has been read in my hearing, but I am afraid it will not be for me whatever," and he swayed himself slightly as he spoke, and his voice was full of pain.

"The minister said I might come," said old Nelson, earnestly and hopefully.

"Ay, but you are not Lachlan Campbell, and you hef not had his privileges. My father was a godly elder in the Free Church of Scotland, and never a night or morning but we took the Books."

"Yes, but He said 'any man,'" persisted Nelson, putting his hand on Lachlan's knee. But Lachlan shook his head.

"Dat young feller," said Baptiste; "wha's hees nem, heh?"

"He has no name. It is just a parable," explained Sandy.

"He's got no nem? He's just a parom'ble? Das no young feller?" asked Baptiste anxiously; "das mean nothing?"

Then Nelson took him in hand and explained to him the meaning, while Baptiste listened even more eagerly, ejaculating softly, 'Ah, voila! bon! by gar!" When Nelson had finished he broke out, "Dat young feller, his name Baptiste, heh? and de old Fadder he's le bon Dieu? Bon! das good story for me. How you go back? You go to de pries?"

"The book doesn't say priest or any one else," said Nelson. "You go back in yourself, you see?"

"Non; das so, sure nuff. Ah!"—as if a light broke in upon him—"you go in your own self. You make one leetle prayer. You say, 'Le bon Fadder, oh! I want come back, I tire, so hongree, so sorree?' He say, 'Come right 'long.' Ah! das fussrate. Nelson, you make one leetle prayer for Sandy and me."

And Nelson lifted up his face and said: "Father, we're all gone far away; we have spent all, we are poor, we are tired of it all; we want to feel different, to be different; we want to come back. Jesus came to save us from our sins; and He said if we came He wouldn't cast us out, no matter how bad we were, if we only came to Him. Oh, Jesus Christ,"—and his old, iron face began to work, and two big tears slowly came from under his eyelids—"we are a poor lot, and I'm the worst of the lot, and we are trying to find the way. Show us how to get back. Amen." (870)

Grains Make Brains.

Grains when properly prepared by thorough dextrinization of the starch are the most easily digestible of all foods, with the exception of fruits, which when ripe and fresh, with few exceptions, really require no digestion at all. By thorough dextrinization of the starch contained in cereal substances by the aid of the methods devised and employed by the Battle Creek, Mich., Sanitarium Health Food Co., these highly nutritious products are rendered almost as easily digestible as fruits, undergoing in the stomach and intestines with marvelous rapidity the transformation into nutrient material which when properly circulated in the blood, build up brain, bone, muscle and nerves, and replenish in the most marvelous manner the daily wasting of the stores of nerve and muscular energy, which must be kept intact in order that the human machine may maintain its never-ceasing activity.

Ordinary cooking does not properly prepare cereal foods for digestion and assimilation in human beings. Fruits and grains being the natural dietary of man, the nutritive elements of the grains must be brought as nearly as possible to the same state as that in which they are found in fruits. In other words, the raw starch of grains must be completely dextrinized. This change takes place in fruit during the ripening process. Grains require subjection to a temperature of three or four hundred degrees—much above the boiling point—to accomplish this.

By processes perfected as the result of long and costly experimentation, the Battle Creek, Mich., Sanitarium Health Food Co. has for many years been supplying the patients of the Battle Creek Sanitarium and its score of branches in various parts of the world with the most perfect health foods ever produced. The great success of these institutions is doubtless due, in large part, to the wonderful nutritive properties of these foods, which are now offered to all who desire them through the leading grocers, who keep them on sale.

Those who desire a tempting and nutritious meal that can be served in a second at a cost of one cent a person should buy Granola. It has a rich, nutty flavor. One pound package contains as much nutrition as three pounds of beef. It is thoroughly cooked and ready for immediate use with the addition of fruit juice or milk.

Readers of Current Anecdotes who will send the name of a grocer who does not sell Granola, to the Sanitarium Health Food Co., Battle Creek, Mich., will receive a free sample.

R. S. Macarthur makes the following defense to the statement of Dr. Shaw as to the double life of ministers, made in New York not long since:

"Dr. Shaw is also represented as dwelling on 'the minister's danger to lead a double life.' Later purported quotations show that the words are not used in the grosser sense of moral malefaction; but the sense is that the malefic influence of the minister's position is toward mere professionalism in the performance of his religious duties. Do doubt this danger is real. Our Lord recognized and rebuked it; so must laymen. Ministers do guard against it, for the most part. Perhaps 'ministers as a whole are a pretty miserable lot.' Certainly they ought to be much better than they are; doubtless there is room for great improvement. They are not angels. If they were, no churches would be likely long to retain them as pastors, except the rank and file of church members greatly improved in their lives at home and abroad." (871)

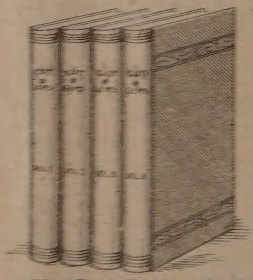
CHURCH BELLS
SWEET TONED. FAR SOUNDING. DURABLE.
CATALOGUE FREE
AMERICAN BELL FOUNDRY NORTHVILLE, MICHIGAN

MINISTERS
WILL BE INTERESTED IN
"Why I am not a Christian Scientist."
By FRED ERDMAN.
Copies can be had for 5 cents each by addressing the Publisher,
5511 Norris Av. Germantown, Pa.

WE CLIP
15,000 Newspapers and Periodicals every week
Thinkers
Students
Writers
Public Men
Business Men
and ANYONE wishing to collect clippings on any subject, — business-pointers, material for lectures, sermons or debates, — should read our booklet, "The Uses of Press Clippings." Sent to any address.
Consolidated Press Clipping Co.
153 La Salle Street, CHICAGO

THE EXPRESS DUPLICATOR
30 COPIES A MINUTE
Makes perfect copies from any writings, autographic or type-written, drawings, plans and specifications in any number of colors, at one impression.
The Only Perfect Multicopier
Reproduces up to 150 copies in fifteen minutes, from one original. Without defects found in all other Multicopiers.
Prices — No. 1. Note Size, 6x9, $3.75
No. 2. Legal cap size, 9x15, 6.00
Price of larger size sent on application. Order to-day or let us send you free catalogue and recommendations.
AGENTS WANTED.
BENSINGER DUPLICATOR CO.
21 WILLIAMS ST., ROOM 12.
NEW YORK.

THE POINT IS
THE BEST VALUE TYPEWRITER
THE SMITH PREMIER
TYPEWRITER
Claims this Distinction and POINTS with pride to its Superior
CONSTRUCTION, SIMPLICITY, AND DURABILITY.
Send for Art Catalogue, Free
THE SMITH PREMIER TYPEWRITER CO.
Syracuse, N.Y. U.S.A.
Cleveland Office, 348 Superior St.



A Library of Illustrations

No Padding. No Threshed Straw. Nothing Hackneyed or Threadbare in these books.

If you would ward off controversy and win the heart, as Jesus did, and as all great preachers have done, you must light up your sermons with apt illustrations. History, nature, life, art, poetry are here transfigured into soul-visions that must prove a blessing in you work.

1000 Illustrations in each volume. $1.75 per volume: $6.50 for the four volumes, carriage paid.

NOTICE WHAT IS SAID OF THESE BOOKS:
Cut Gems are also inspired gems.—Rev. C. JULIAN TUTHILL, Georgetown, Mass.
Cut Gems is a great help in sermon work.—Rev. DANA W. BARTLETT, Salt Lake City, Utah.
The Illustrations are very brilliant and effective.—Rev. J. W. HARTPENCE, Philadelphia, Pa.
Address, G. W. PLACK, Troy, N. Y.

A LITERARY GEM

THE MOST ENGAGING BOOK EVER WRITTEN

BY IAN MACLAREN
REV. H. M. WHARTON, D.D.
J. WILLIAM BUEL, Ph.D.

"The Golden Morning"

A BOOK FOR WHICH THE WORLD HAS WAITED

ITS PLACE IS IN EVERY CHRISTIAN HOME

IT WILL BIND THE BIBLE CLOSER TO THE PEOPLE

IT IS SURE TO EXERT A POWERFUL INFLUENCE FOR GOOD

NOTHING LIKE IT EVER BEFORE WRITTEN

NOT TO BE HAD —IN— BOOK STORES

NEWS AND GOSSIP OF A NEW BOOK ON THE BIBLE have been current in book and Christian circles everywhere for some months. In its authorship was to be combined the superb talents and literary abilities of three of the greatest lights in the world of religious literature.

The book is about to appear and on its title page in collaboration as authors are found the names of that most popular of all writers, IAN MACLAREN (Rev. John Watson), together with H. M. WHARTON, D.D., the great Evangelist, and J. WILLIAM BUEL, Ph.D., one of the most prominent and popular writers on Biblical subjects. A MASTERPIECE INDEED must be the book which calls to its creation such a combination of unmatchable talents. IT IS A MASTERPIECE—and it is good news we bring our readers when we tell them that after the most persistent endeavor and the most industrious and earnest negotiations with the Publishers, this paper is one of a syndicate which has secured the entire first edition for distribution among their subscribers, **not as a means of winning profits,** but to encourage the people to become regular readers, because of the unusual privileges which are offered regular patrons.

The book is entitled "THE GOLDEN MORNING," and while it was intended to be a $5.00 book, and has everything about it—authorship, illustrations, paper, printing and binding—to warrant that price, we have, after many objections and refusals, made terms whereby WE ARE IN POSITION TO OFFER IT TO OUR READERS AT A GREAT REDUCTION. It contains nearly 800 pages and over 500 superb illustrations. It is printed with clear type on coated paper, and is bound in beautifully illuminated covers, with gold and colored stamping.

IT IS IN REALITY THE BIBLE IN STORY FORM arranged so as to assure a perfect understanding of THE GREATEST OF ALL BOOKS even by little children. All ambiguous and obscure phrases and descriptions have been put into language which makes them clear as noon-day. The historic events have been arranged in their proper order, and the story is made continuous and of absorbing interest throughout. Poetical description so freely used in the Bible, and the many Parables, have all received analysis and now appear as plainly told tales which need no interpreter or explanation.

Hundreds of artistic and accurate pictures have been used to embellish its pages and fix in the mind of reader or student the scenes so graphically described. No book of a religious nature has ever been so sumptuously illustrated. This feature alone costing an enormous sum of money, as every drawing was made especially for this work.

It will be of highest value to the young, as from a few readings, they will get such an understanding of Bible truths and promises from this book, that it would require years for them to gather through Bible reading or study. Indeed, one of the chief claims of "THE GOLDEN MORNING" to universal popularity, is that the children will learn to reverence and love the Bible and to accept its teachings through reading this charmingly written story.

WE ARE READY TO DISTRIBUTE THIS GRAND BOOK AMONG OUR READERS who should order at once, as our portion of the introductory edition is limited. The prices are as follows, WITH POSTAGE PREPAID:

BOUND IN EXTRA FINE CLOTH, BEAUTIFUL GOLD AND COLORED STAMPING	$2.75
SUPERB HALF MOROCCO, WITH BURNISHED RED EDGES	$3.75

THE BOOK WILL NOT BE ON SALE IN BOOK-STORES, AND SHOULD BE ORDERED FROM THE OFFICE OF THIS PUBLICATION. EACH ORDER WILL BE PLACED ON FILE ON ITS ARRIVAL AND FILLED IN THE ORDER RECEIVED. BECAUSE OF THE EXTREMELY NARROW MARGIN OF PROFIT, CASH WILL BE EXPECTED WITH EACH ORDER. SHOULD THE BOOK BE UNSATISFACTORY WHEN RECEIVED AND EXAMINED, IT MAY BE RETURNED AND THE MONEY WILL BE CHEERFULLY REFUNDED.

GEM PUBLISHING CO.
ROOM 22, 74 FRANKFORT ST. CLEVELAND, O.
(REFERENCE, CURRENT ANECDOTES.)

INDEX.

Advertising, 126.
Annoyances, 122.
Athletics, 142.
Back-biters, 834.
Beauty, 840.
Birds, 117.
Blessings, 833.
Burden, 134.
Burning, 838.
Brotherhood, 118, 147.
Cable, 113
Character, 114.
Charm, 824.
Cheerfulness, 130.
Child, 136.
Childhood, 831.
Christ, 111, 114, 864, 865.
Christmas Verse, see page 81.
Church, 831.
Cigarettes, 142.
Clean, 837.
Communion, 841.
Compassion, 835.
Conduct, 116.
Contrary, 146.
Courage, 141.
Courage, 849.
Criticism, 848.
Cursing, 839.
Daughter, 867.
Destroying, 832.
Dewey, 101.
Disease, 844.
Dishonor, 106.
Display, 105.
Doubt, 868.
Drink, 115.
Eagle, 136.
Entangled, 104,
Error, 138.
Evil, 102.
Evil, 117.
Example, 864.
Eye Service, 826.
Faith, 128, 831.
Faithfulness, 826.
Failure, 842.
Farewells, 827.
Fascination, 102.
Flying, 137.
Friendship, 110.
Grace, 133.
Giving, 845.
Goodbye, 827.
Gold, 149.
Gould, Helen, 141.
Grief, 133.
Harmony, 130.
Health, 843.
Heart, 103.
Hell, 868.
Help, 108, 125.
Heroism, 846.
Honor, 867.
Hope, 107, 139, 145.
Idleness, 830.
Image, 103.
Imprint, 120.
Inexhaustible, 144.
Inconsistency, 848.
Influence, 121.
Ingersoll, 865.
Inheritance, 836.
Jewels, 829.
Kindness, 150.
Light, 112, 843.
Love, 131.
Manhood, 105, 119.
Mastering, 101.
Measure, 111.
Meek, 836.
Mind, 117.
Mizpah, 827.
Mother, 867.
Needs, 144.
Numbers, 846, 869.
Opportunity, 109.
Overcoming, 101.
Ozone, 843.
Patience, 129.
Persistance, 123.
Pity, 124
Planting, 832.
Pleasure, 115—830.
Pluck, 123.
Power, 148.
Prayer, 113, 849, 127.
Pride, 828.
Prodigal, 870
Profanity, 866.
Promised Land, 825.
Prosperty, 149.
Providence, 144.
Punishment, 135.
Pure, 837.
Purpose, 104, 107.
Quality, 846.
Regret. 865.
Scandal, 834.
Self-control, 143.
Selfishness, 845.
Sin, 132, 824, 145, 142, 837, 838.
Singing, 140.
Smoking, 142.
Solitude, 840.
Sontrary,
Spirit, The 148.
Stars, 839.
Swearing, 839.
Tears, 829.
Temperance, 115, 136, 155, 862, 863.
Temptation, 102, 871.
Thanksgiving, 847.
Transgressor, 135.
Trust, 139.
Trusts, 833.
Twelve, 869.
Victory, 847.
Wastepower, 148.
Water of Life, 108.
Worries, 122.
Worship, 841.
Wreck, 138.
Wrecks, 119.

SCRIPTURE TEXTS ILLUSTRATED, BY BOOKS.

Genesis 31, 49—827.
Ex. 20, 12—867.
Num. 23, 8—839.
Joshua 23, 10—846.
1 Sam. 3, 10—113.
Job 29, 13—140.
Psalms 32, 8—107.
37, —836.
107, 23—847.
141, 8—139.
Prov. 12, 20—121.
14, 12—824.
23, 5—136.
23, 21—862.
23, 32—104.
25, 18—834.
Ecc. 12, 1—839.
Sol. 2, 15—122.
Isa. 1, 18—840.
11, 8—824.
40, 31—137.
45, 3—826.
58, 8—112.
64. 6—844.
66, 19—832.
Jer. 17, 11—135.
Ezek 7, 13—142.
Dan. 5, 2, 105.
Mal. 3, 17—829.
Matt 5, 16—114.
5, 34—866.
5, 44—835.
6, 6—849.
6, 13, 102.
7, 8—123.
12, 36—830.
15, 19—121.
Matt 18, 3—831.
18, 6—865.
18, 20—869.
22, 11—828.
22, 20—103.
25, 34—5—150
Mark 12, 30—142.
Luke 4, 42—126.
8, 15—129.
11, 4—102.
11, 10—123.
12, 15—131.
12, 15—845.
15, 20—870.
15, 31—134.
John 1, 9—112.
5, 24—113
6, 37—868.
8, 12—843.
John 12, 32—864.
14, 2—109.
17, 23—130.
Acts 1, 8—148.
Rom. 8, 26—127
1 Cor. 1, 27—108.
3, 4—139.
3, 18—848.
16, 13—101.
2 Cor. 6, 17—825.
6, 17—825
10, 5—117.
10, 7—102.
Eph. 4, 13—111.
5, 18—117.
1 Thess 5, 14—147.
2 Thess 2, 8—119.
1 Tim 5, 13—106.
2 Tim 2, 1—116.
2, 17—132.
Phil. 2, 15—114.
4, 19—144.
Heb. 1, 13—107.
2, 15—863.
4, 15—16—118.
6, 8—838.
13, 5—110.
1 Pet. 1, 4—836.
3, 4—143.
3, 8—124.
5, 8—119.
1 John 1, 9—837.
5, 19—145.
Rev 11, 7—115.
15, 1—117.

SCRIPTURE TEXTS ILLUSTRATED.

(Consecutive by Illustration Numbers.)

101 1 Cor 16, 13.
102 Matt 6, 13.
Luke 11, 4.
Heb 1, 13.
2 Cor 10, 7.
103 Matt 22, 20.
104 Prov 23, 32.
105 Dan 5, 2.
106 1 Tim 5, 13.
107 Psalm 32, 8.
108 1 Cor 1, 27.
109 John 14, 2.
110 Heb 13, 5.
111 Eph 4, 13.
112 Isa 58, 8.
John 1, 9.
113 1 Sam 3, 10.
John 5, 24.
114 Phil 2, 15.
114 Matt 5, 16.
115 Rev 11, 7.
116 2 Tim 2, 1.
117 2 Cor 10, 5.
Eph 5, 18.
Rev 15, 1.
118 Heb 4, 15—16
119 2 Thess 2, 8.
1 Pet 5, 8.
121 Prov 12, 20.
Matt 15, 19.
122 Sol 2, 15.
123 Matt 7, 8.
Luke 11, 10.
124 1 Pet 3, 8.
126 Luke 4, 42.
127 Rom 8, 26.
129 Luke 8, 15.
130 John 17, 23
131 Luke 12, 15.
132 2 Tim 2, 17.
134 Luke 15, 31
135 Jer 17, 11.
136 Prov 23, 5.
137 Isa 40, 31.
139 Psalm 141, 8.
1 Cor 3, 4.
140 Job 29, 13.
142 Ezek 7, 13.
Mark 12, 30.
143 Job 34, 29.
1 Pet 3, 4.
144 Phil 4, 19.
145 1 John 5, 19.
147 1 Thess 5, 14.
148 Acts 1, 8.
150 Matt 25, 34—5.
824 Prov 14, 12.
824 Isa 11, 12.
825 2 Cor 6, 17.
826 Isa 45, 3.
827 Gen 31, 49.
828 Matt 22, 11.
829 Mal 3, 17.
830 Matt 12, 36.
831 Matt 18, 3.
832 Isa 66, 19.
834 Prov 25, 18.
835 Matt 5, 44.
836 Psalm 37
1 Pet 1, 4.
837 1 John 1, 9.
838 Heb 6, 8.
839 Ecc 12, 1.
Num 23, 8.
840 Isa 1, 18.
843 John 8. 12.
844 Isa 64, 6.
845 Luke 12, 15.
846 Joshua 23, 10.
847 Psalm 107, 23.
848 1 Cor 3, 18.
849 Matt 6, 6.
862 Prov 23, 21.
863 Heb 2, 15.
864 John 12, 32.
865 Matt 18, 6.
866 Matt 5, 34.
867 Ex 20, 12.
868 John 6, 37.
869 Matt 18, 20.
870 Luke 15, 20.